



## What's Inside



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### IN-STATE TUITION DEBATE



PG. 4

### HARRY POTTER CULTURE



PG. 7

### A&E HYPNOTIST



PG. 16

### POWDERPUFF

# Free the Coffee

By **NELSON ARNOUS, I**  
STAFF WRITER

It's 6 A.M. You went to sleep at five. Time to trek to BLS. It's only Tuesday, and you probably won't sleep tonight either. You also have two tests today. And a presentation. And maybe an in-class essay. Or two. And this is the sixth year you've followed the same routine.

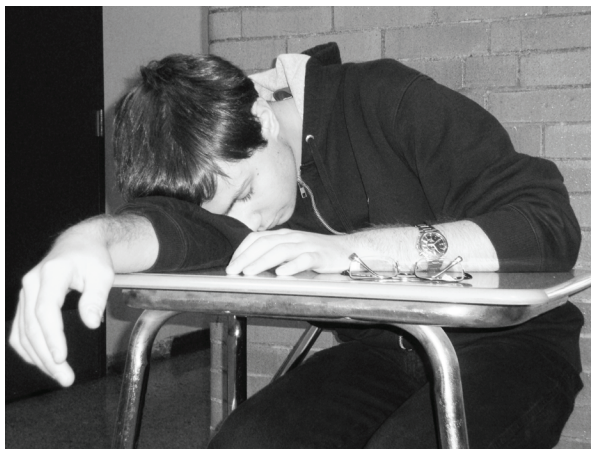
So what's the solution, one would logically ask – this sort of sleep schedule is not one anyone can keep up with. The truth is there isn't a solution. Chances of the problem going away are slim, and ignoring work to make time for sleep is not a viable option, especially as the prospect of applying to college steadily creeps into your mind. With no permanent solution, you look for the next best thing – coffee.

For years, students have been sneaking their coffee around the hallways throughout the day, doing their best to cope with the crippling sleep deprivation we all know and love. Coffee hiding schemes are endless, but time after time the scheme ends with your coffee – and sometimes your ten dollar mug – thrown in the trash. It's almost insulting – we're entrusted with applying to colleges, doing financial aid, keeping up with schoolwork and volunteering in our communities. Yet are we not responsible enough to drink coffee in the mornings?

For years, teachers and administrators have responded to angry protests

with concerns over spills, the healthiness of coffee and the safety of hot beverages in the halls. Let's be honest. These are valid.

But the fact that there are valid concerns over coffee does not mean that there is not a way to deal with the concerns and still give the seniors what they want. Spills



STILL NO, ABSOLUTELY NOT, NEIN, NON, NYET

are a problem for custodial staff, teachers and anyone afraid of mice. A contract is going around senior homerooms stating that if given the privilege of drinking coffee, the class of 2011 would clean up. Period. If we failed to clean up after our spills, we'd lose the privilege. Period.

The effects of coffee on students' health have been brought up. According to the Mayo Clinic, however, "Over the past several years, research has busted some health myths about coffee. It doesn't contribute to heart attacks, cancer or reduced bone density – all of which have been

suspected in the past. We've learned that coffee, in moderation – perhaps one to two cups daily – isn't bad for you [...] coffee seems to offer health benefits, perhaps the most noteworthy being a reduction in the risk of type two diabetes." Harvard Health Publications and the American Heart Association agree.

Safety is another issue that has been brought up. Perhaps students could spill hot coffee on themselves or a peer. But isn't spilling more likely when coffee is cradled under sweatshirts and precariously smuggled?

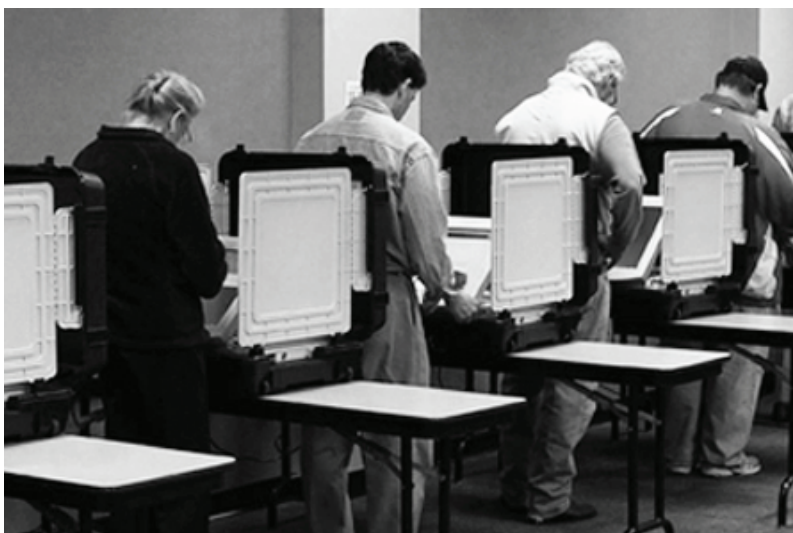
So the proposal is this: coffee, as a senior privilege, only until 7:50 A.M.. Coffee would not be taken past homeroom, time in the hallways would be minimal, and if spills were to become an issue, the privilege would be gone. Floor masters and homeroom teachers know who is a senior and who is not – there would not be confusion as to who would and who would not be allowed coffee.

The entire issue epitomizes a common theme at Boston Latin – responsibility without reward. We're exemplary students, but we do not get treated like it. Ask your friends at English High School, Boston Latin Academy, Snowden International High School or the like. Ask them what would happen if they walked down the halls, coffee in hand. Would it be snatched from their hand and spiked into a trash can? Do you even really need to ask?

# 2010 Midterm (S)elections

By **WINNIE ZHANG, II**  
STAFF WRITER

The people have spoken and they want change. This was the overwhelming message heard in America when Barack Obama won the presidency in 2008, and it is the message heard again today in 2010. In the recent midterm elections on November 2, the Democrats took a "shellacking," as described by the President. The Democratic Party lost sixty seats in the House of Representatives and six seats in the Senate. Despite maintaining an advantage in the Senate, the Democrats have lost the majority in the House.



VOTERS CAST THEIR BALLOTS FOR 2010 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

This takeover of the Grand Old Party (GOP) was not only present in Washington, but also nationwide, as they now hold the majority of governorships as well.

The results of this election were not completely unexpected. Opinion polls prior to the election had favored a Republican

turnover, largely due to concern about the healthcare reform bill, the high unemployment rates and the state of the economy. Many voters have expressed dissatisfaction with President Obama's performance thus far, which was shown in the election. They feel as though he has not directed enough of his attention on job growth and stabilizing the economy. In Obama's post-election press conference, he had said, "There is no doubt that people's number one concern is the economy."

The way Americans voted in the election also seems to indicate that they want a smaller, less expensive government. Republicans have been quick to point this out. The new Speaker of the House, Representative John Boehner of Ohio says,

**MIDTERM (S)ELECTIONS**  
*Continued on page 3*

## Wizard News Tidbits

>> Breaking news; You-Know-Who is indeed on his way back to power. Eye witnesses have confirmed this report. The He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named has been spotted in Borgan and Burkes, up to mischief no doubt. Stay on the lookout and keep your wands on guard, if you see anything that is evil or

may in anyway be linked back to our turbaned foe please call in.

>> The Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry is in need of a new Defense against the Dark Arts professor, no surprise there! Upon applying you are expected to pass an administration proctored examination. When Hogwarts was questioned con-

cerning this new prerequisite, a representative from the school told us that "We aren't taking any chances this year; our last few years of teachers have been less than satisfactory."

>> Cedric Diggory's one year memorial service will be held in Hogsmeade on the 21st of June. Please attend the service and honor this remarkably brave and young wizard who died tragically at

the hands of He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named. Family members and friends of Mr. Diggory will be saying a few words in his remembrance, followed by food and festivities, it is sure to be an evening you do not want to miss. Students have also reported sightings of a vampire-like creature with a strikingly similar appearance to the Mr. Diggory.



# NEWS

## Editor's Note

By **ANDY VO, I**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Usually, this is an area where we editors-in-chief talk about how our week went. We mention how hectic it was, how fun it was, and how happy our stomachs were after food runs to Boloco. But...well, I'm sorry, reader, but I can't do that. Apparently (?) Tommy Vee, the Hypnotist, came up to the Art Wing and hypnotized the entire staff while we were working. And now we can't remember anything! I mean, I kind of remember something about doing ballet and accidentally kicking Reed in the face...but I mean, I do that all the time. So maybe we really did lose our memories.

But the question still stands: who would do that to us? who would want to

sabotage us that badly?  
And then I realized the answer to my question: VOLDEMORT.  
But let me tell you what I *do* remember. We were leaving the hal-



lowed halls of our school at 10:30 PM that Friday night (I know, right?) when we saw the Dark Mark above

the gate. For a moment, we sobbed for the future of our school. "What's going to happen now?" we asked. "What does this mean for our school, our country, our world?" As a muggle-born, I was scared.

Quickly afterwards, though, our very own Hermione Granger (Reed McConnell) told us about the horcruxes. Voldemort hid parts of his soul in seven horcruxes, she said, and before we can kill him, we have to destroy these horcruxes.

Reader, it won't be easy. But it is possible. If we have hope, we can defeat him and his Death Eaters on the battlefield. And the first Death Eaters who stand in our way? The English High football team.

The battle starts this Thursday, November 25, at Harvard Stadium. Be there, armed with your wands, ready to bomb the blue! LET'S DO THIS.

## Cholera Outbreak in Haiti

By **CHRIS SITU, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ten months ago, Haiti was struck by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake which killed hundreds of thousands of people. Now they face a new problem: cholera. Cholera is a virus that causes extreme diarrhea and vomiting, which can lead to dehydration and even death. Countries with advanced sanitation systems are largely unaffected by cholera, but Haiti, which is the poorest country in the western hemisphere, has one of the worst water systems in the world. Furthermore, it was struck by a devastating earthquake and more recently, a hurricane.

These natural disasters have led to an even worse collapse of the sewage system, and the water has become increasingly contaminated. Since the country has almost no indoor plumbing, waste products cannot be led away from densely populated areas. As a result, waste is being found in the water and food of citizens. The virus began to spread last month; since then, 14,642 people have been hospitalized, and 917 pronounced

dead from cholera.  
When the earthquake hit in January, many were left homeless, and the country became an ideal environment for cholera to grow. This is the first time in 50 years that cholera has appeared in Haiti. The United Nations estimates that it will cost about 163.9 million dollars to



CHOLERA PATIENT IN TREATMENT

help combat cholera over the next year. Aid groups are setting up hospitals around the capital to treat the victims of the outbreak, but people continue to contract it from contaminated water.  
Treatment for cholera is simple: all it takes is the administration of fluids. Haiti, however, has almost no clean water, and the help that is on its way might not be able to handle the rising number of

people infected. World Health Organization spokesman Gregory Hart says that the cholera that has appeared in Haiti will now stay in the country for years. Many infected people have gotten their water from local wells, which are usually sterilized with a cleaner like Clorox. Those cleaners are now unavailable to them because of the recent disasters.

Relief agencies are attempting to minimize the impact of this new disaster on Haiti. Warnings are being issued to citizens to wash their hands thoroughly, dispose of their waste at least 30 feet away from a body of water and bury it. It is also feared that cholera will soon spread to Haiti's neighboring country, the Dominican Republic. Elisabeth Byrs of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs says, "Cases are expected to appear in a burst of epidemics that will happen suddenly in different parts of the country." She adds, "We continue to scale up operations in order to meet urgent needs, but if we do not have the supplies and the people to deliver them, the epidemic may outrun our efforts."

Haiti needs more aid and more doctors to help stem the outbreak, or cholera will become too powerful to overcome. The density of the population in contaminated areas facilitates the rapid spread of the virus. As of right now, only time will tell how Haiti will fare against cholera.

Boston Latin School *Argo*  
2010 - 2011 Academic Year

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Boston Latin School

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The Argo strives, in accordance with the highest standards of journalism, to inform and inspire its readers, to provide a forum for constructive debate, and to foster understanding among all members of the Boston Latin School community.

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# NEWS

## Propositions in the US

By **RICHARD FU, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A few weeks ago, there was a series of polls conducted across the United States regarding a variety of topics ranging from medical to political issues. The people's decisions will determine the fate of American policy for the next four years. Included among these was California's decision to reject marijuana under state rule, as well as Utah, Arizona, South Carolina and South Dakota's measure to allow workers to vote by a secret ballot. The voters of California rejected the Proposition 19, which would have legalized the usage of marijuana, causing a bit of controversy throughout the state. On the other hand, supporters of the Proposition argued that the "prevention" of marijuana would lead to a huge criminal black market headed by drug lords.

Supporters also stated that allowing marijuana to roam free would have generated a tax revenue of 14 billion dollars a year in business, saving the state millions of dollars a year from arresting the 61,000 Californians in possession of marijuana. Marijuana, however, is already legalized for medical purposes in the state. The opponents of Proposition 19 strongly outnumbered the supporters. They asserted that even if it was passed, the federal law would still prohibit individuals and groups from manufacturing, distributing and possessing marijuana for recreational use. U.S.

Attorney General, Eric Holder, states that he will continue to hold that law in place no matter what happens. Measures similar to these have already been taken in other states, such as South Dakota. A total of only 14 states, including the District of

workers by relying on sign-up cards with a "card check" instead of ballots. Business groups are opposed to this. They claim that employees could be pressured into checking a "yes" or "no" answer on a card to unionize. Accord-

was a reproach against the administration's notorious health care reforms. The voters' rejection, however, has aroused some concern, as they seek to forestall federal law, which could be taken up in court.

Voters in other states cast ballots on other measures such as balancing budgets. In total, 37 states offered 160 ballot proposals, and the initiatives seem to be for the benefit of the states, as there is no unifying theme. Among the nine initiatives, California offered a proposition that could reduce the government gridlock by lowering the minimum amount needed for the legislature to approve a state budget, such as a simple majority instead of two-thirds majority.

There was also a scandal in the governor's office of Illinois. The state's voters approved a constitution amendment, which allows for the recall of a governor and a special election to choose a replacement. This amendment exists in 18 other states. For this measure to pass, supporters will have to make up 60 percent of the vote or an overall majority. After much discrimination, voters from Arizona changed their ways. They approved Proposition 107, which called for a discrimination ban. This amendment to the state constitution would prohibit the state from granting treatment or discrimination against any person or group based on race, sex, skin color, ethnicity or national origin.

Since the elections, a lot of changes have been made in the country based on the decisions of the voters. Whether or not these changes are effective remain unknown, but the nation has about two years to go before they can decide on any other propositions.



STICKER SUPPORTING PROPOSITION 19

Columbia, legalized marijuana for the sole purpose of medical use.

In four other states (Utah, South Carolina, Arizona and South Dakota), a measure was approved that would guarantee workers the right to vote by secret ballot on whether or not they want union representation. The anti-union measures are considered preemptive strikes against a federal legislative proposal, as they allow unions to organize

ing to Zoe Bridges-Curry, spokeswoman of the American Rights at Work Group, the proposed "majority sign-up" law would reduce opportunities for employees to threaten or fire workers for wanting a union.

In Colorado, voters have rejected a measure that would allow citizens to have the option of not participating in the federal health care reforms, which includes insurance requirements. The voters' decision

## In-State Tuition for Illegal Immigrants

By **BEVERLY NGUYEN, I**  
NEWS EDITOR

This past year, the issue of illegal immigration has been one of much controversy in the US. In April, Arizona passed a law that authorizes police officers to stop anyone they suspect to be an illegal immigrant after pulling them over for any other misdemeanor, such as traffic violation. This led to widespread debate around the country; the dispute is only increasing with the California Supreme Court's recent, unanimous decision to uphold a state law passed eight years ago. The law allows illegal immigrants to pay in-state tuition rates, making higher education more affordable to many of these immigrants.

In-state tuition applies only to public colleges and universities that are run by the state and paid for by its taxpayers. Only those who are residents of the state, and have attended high school for at least three years and graduated, are qualified to pay in-state tuition. California is not the only state that allows its illegal residents to have this benefit; Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Washington also grant its illegal immigrants this privilege. Linton Joaquin, general counsel of the National Im-

migration Law Center, believes the bill passed by California "shows that a state can fashion a law that provides in-state tuition to people without regard to immigration status."

Opponents of the bill, however, are not as enthusiastic, and fear that the ruling may push other states into adopting a similar law. They argue that these students should not live here in the first place. They also argue that it violates a 1996 federal law that was passed stating that states were not allowed to provide "a post secondary education benefit to an alien not lawfully present unless any citizen or national is eligible for such benefit." The opponents assert that California, and other states that support the same bill, are not granting in-state tuition to out of state residents. The courts counter that residents are not losing any benefit because they are also eligible for in-state tuition in their own home-state. A professor of the Immigration Reform Law Institute who unsuccessfully challenged California's decision, and plans to appeal it in the US Supreme Court, Kris Kobach claims that allowing illegal immigrants the benefit of paying in state tuition will cost taxpayers \$200 million a year.

Proponents have also discussed tax-

payers in their argument. According to a 2007 estimate from the Urban Institute, each year, about 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high school. If taxpayers have already paid for their K-12 education, then illegal immigrants should be encouraged to further their learning. Other supporters like Ethan Schulman, who had successfully defended the law in California's Supreme Court, believe that in state tuition rates are a small break for illegal immigrants who are ineligible for any other kind of financial aid. He states that the parents of these students "are cleaning our offices and working in our fields. To expect them to be able to pay out of their own pockets without any benefit of financial aid that's available to anyone else is unrealistic in the extreme."

It seems that Governor Deval Patrick agrees with Schulman's sentiments. Since his recent reelection, Patrick has expressed a commitment to pushing reforms similar to California's law on in-state tuition during his second term. During his speech at the Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition's annual Thanksgiving luncheon, Patrick promised to implement all 130 recommendations in an administration report by an advisory panel, some of which includes refocusing on bilingual education and giving illegal

immigrants the opportunity to obtain driver's licenses. Apparently, half of the recommendations have already been adopted.

Not everyone in the state is thrilled with the Governor's plan though. Bradley Jones, Jr., Minority leader of the Massachusetts State House of Representatives released a statement saying "Providing in-state tuition to illegal immigrants should not be a priority of Governor Patrick and the fact that it does not shock me, but it certainly disappoints me." Jones, like many others, is worried about the potential \$2.5 billion cost and believes that "it sends a very bad message to the taxpayers who are told year after year by the Patrick administration that they must pay more taxes...." According to the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, if these proposals are passed, an estimated 600 students could enroll into the state's school system, resulting in extra cost of \$2.5 million.

Jones, however, is confident that the attempt to grant in-state tuition to illegal immigrants will not pass in legislature, as it has failed in the past. Patrick believes that the proposal does have a chance of succeeding, but that "there is a federal law that is in the way of that and without a change in the federal law we can't do it on our own."

With a Democratic president and a Republican majority in Congress, there runs a great risk for political gridlock. Both parties, however, have expressed a willingness to try to compromise and form bipartisan relationships. This midterm election has set the stage for the second half of Obama's first term and his potential re-election in 2012.

### MIDTERM (S)ELECTIONS

*Continued from page 1*

"[The American people] sent a very loud message that...they want a smaller, less costly and more accountable government." The GOP has criticized Obama's role in passing an economic stimulus, reforming student loans, rallying for universal healthcare and bail-

ing out the auto and banking industries. They believe that the government has to allow the private sector to rebuild the economy.

When the newly elected Congress convenes in January, Republicans vow to aggressively carry out their own agenda, which they outlined in their Pledge to America. They plan to "repeal and replace" the healthcare law and to return

the discretionary budget to 2008 levels. The latter would only shave 100 million dollars off the nearly 14 billion dollar deficit and might hurt many education, veteran, energy and health programs. Republicans are also looking to extend the Bush tax cuts, while President Obama hopes to begin taxing the highest earners in America in an effort to lower the federal deficit.

# FORUM

## Teachers: No Friend Zone

**BY NHU LE, III**  
STAFF WRITER

In July 2010, Facebook reported that 500 million people had profiles on its site. It has become the premier way to contact anyone and everyone, whether your uncle, father, grandmother or even that kid you once talked to in arts and crafts at summer camp. Its omnipresence in everyday life, however, has introduced a dilemma for school systems: should students and teachers be friends on Facebook? All teachers should ignore friendship requests from current students. Facebook is a social network; its purpose is to connect people to others with whom they socialize. The relationship between a student and a teacher is of a different kind. Teachers and students may, and probably should, share an open and friendly relationship, but they are not "friends." Being friends on Facebook crosses the line because it destroys the barrier separating the personal lives of

both the student and the teacher. No matter how close the teacher and student are, there are personal thoughts that they should not share with each other. After all, for what would teachers be liable, if they come across content that they deem worrisome on the walls of their students, or if teachers post something with which a student takes issue? Facebook is supposed to be a place where students can socialize with free reign over their profiles. Students should not have to worry about teachers monitoring their profiles. I agree with many school administrators who advise teachers not to be friends with their students on Facebook. It is better to simply not take the risk and preserve boundaries.

Of course there are certain qualifiers to this. This only applies to teachers and their current students. Once the student has graduated, or is no longer at the same school, there is no problem with the two of them being friends on Facebook. I myself am currently friends

with a student-teacher who has moved on to another school. It is a great way to keep in contact and get adult support. The relationship has been stripped of its formality and is akin to that of family friends or mentor and mentee. Professional ethics also no longer apply. It is true that Facebook is an extremely convenient way to communicate. In fact, it is more reliable than email. I understand that this is why some teachers have added their students as friends. They categorize their students into a specific group so as to limit their access to personal information. This system is prone to error: students may not categorize their teachers or both may forget to limit access. Some teachers have personal and professional accounts, which is a good solution but not perfect. Facebook does have groups and community pages, and teachers have used those to contact students. In this case, it is not necessary for students and teachers to be friends.

The fact remains, however, that

Facebook was not designed to be used by teachers for educational purposes. Therefore, it does not have all the tools a teacher might need. Many companies have recently launched websites, like Teacherweb.com, which are specifically designed with teachers' needs in mind. In a few years, I believe the technology will be perfected and linked with Facebook for a more convenient form of communication between students and teachers – that is, if Facebook recognizes the potential and develops a solution to this dilemma itself.

Until then, teachers who use it for classroom purposes should use all possible alternatives in order to avoid adding their students as friends on Facebook. Students and teachers who want to foster a friendly relationship should keep to the classic dallying-in-the-classroom-after-class technique and preserve proper boundaries between teachers and students. Facebook is first and foremost a social network for peers and works best that way.

## Harry Potter CULTure Still Going Strong

**BY DELIA RIDGE-CREAMER, II  
& BOBBY FITZPATRICK, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER & FORUM EDITOR

Harry Potter: cultural phase or permanent subculture? Can you recall a time when Harry Potter was not a part of our everyday lives? When it was not perfectly normal to discuss the anguish caused by Dobby's death or the plausibility that a cancer/leo could take on the most evil wizard ever, solely with the help of two other teens? For most people our age, life before Harry Potter is something that few can remember, yet this cultural phenomenon that started before we can remember is still going strong, with an ever-expanding fan base. In 1997, J.K. Rowling's first novel was first published, and it did not take long for the literary series to literally "transfigure" our culture as we know it.

The Harry Potter culture first entered our homes when the novels were subsequently turned into movies by Warner Brothers, which racked in billions of dollars in revenue, along with millions of new illiterate fans! Some may argue that the Harry Potter trend will be short lived, but that is simply not true. Twilight seems to be on par with Harry Potter in regards to fans, but such unintelligible dribble that reels in fans with a shirtless athletic-Eskimo-werewolf cannot withstand the short attention spans

of America's populace. It also helps that Harry Potter fans are endlessly committed. The seventh movie has just come out (Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part One for those of you living in a cave with no exits), and tickets for the midnight screening were sold out weeks in advance. I have no shame in stating that I am one of those devout Potter fans. This craze for Harry Potter is in no way purely due to the movies. The books themselves are richer in creativity and mysticism than Tarot. This wealth of literary gold has turned small children, normally opposed to reading, into avid readers.

The Harry Potter series appeals to not only older readers but a younger generation of readers too. Children come to the age where they are ready to go beyond simple picture books, and Harry Potter is a good choice for the next step in reading, with its emotion-grabbing stories. After the Harry Potter series became popular, the purchases of children's books rose, and a new interest of reading in children was born. "Rowling's Army" of readers has created a culture among young people which is continuously fed by new readers, leaving an everlasting flow of new Harry Potter fans! This childhood love affair with the series has shaped the way youth converse and socialize.

People can relate to each other with their love for the Harry Potter series anytime and anywhere, whether it is through

online forums, discussing characters and plot theories or chatting about random trivia (preferably floo powder) on public transportation. The greatest thing about Harry Potter is that anywhere you go, you can become instant best friends with a recently found fan after getting over the initial moment of shock/euphoria. There is something special about the boy with the lightning bolt scar; he brings us together and has never let us down. In fact, for our generation specifically, these are the characters that shaped our childhood. Being a Harry Potter fan at the peak of its cultural domination is definitely an aspect of my childhood for which I am completely grateful. Growing up reading stories of Harry, Ron and Hermione and eagerly awaiting the publication of each new book has taught me to appreciate the fact that great books these days are hard to come by and that books are and can be an experience shared mutually with others.

As the Harry Potter phenomenon continues to dominate, it is clear that it is leaving an imprint on our culture much deeper than we originally suspected. Nowadays, many consider being a Harry Potter fan a large part of their identity, like their own heritage. Ciara Murphy (II) stated, "Yeah, being a Harry Potter fan is definitely something I am proud of. If I had to state the three attributes that describe me, I would say 'Irish, tall and

Harry Potter.' It has become a part of who I am as a person, equally as important to me as my Irish background is." This shows that Harry Potter runs through our veins, just as Butterbeer runs through the sewers of Hogsmeade. Many know that the term "muggle" refers to non-magic folk or a person who possesses no magical powers (unfortunately us). In 2003, the Oxford English Dictionary published the term "muggle," a rare occurrence, since pop culture words are not usually published in the dictionary. The Harry Potter influence can also be seen in the music industry, as now there are many new bands enchanting our ears, such as Harry and the Potters, or the lone act, The Whomping Willow. These musical acts and others like them sing Harry Potter related songs, some of which are sold on iTunes and have created their own genre known as Wizard Rock (Wrock for short). Not only has the influence of J.K. Rowling's mastery "stupefied" the music industry, but it has also had the same effect on literary fields. The seven Harry Potter novels are all fantasy, which has led to an explosion of Potter-related novellas, which "filch" plot themes from the Potter legacy.

It is safe to say that nothing can deter us from our love of Harry. His charms have flown into our hearts on the wings of Hedwig and have taken coop there for many generations to come.

## Aung San Suu Kyi: Free at Last?

**BY POOJA KALAPURAKKEL, III**  
COPY EDITING ASSOCIATE

After 15 years of house arrest, the junta, a small group currently controlling Burma, officially released democratic leader Aung San Suu Kyi on November 13, 2010. Could this really be happening?

This Nobel Peace Prize winner and leader of the National League of Democracy (NLD) has been detained in her home periodically since 1989 by the military regime because of her strong belief in democracy. Her life-long goal has been to overthrow the Burmese dictatorship to liberate her people. On November 7, the Burmese government held

its first election in 20 years. Suu Kyi chose not to compete, and as a result, the much-hated Union Solidarity and Development Party, who supports

the military regime, were victorious once again. This group is unwilling to give up its power. Why would they even think of releasing Suu Kyi?

One may think that the military regime has had a "change of heart." It is almost certain that she will be released; it cannot possibly be a trap set by the government. This seems a little too friendly, however, and not to mention sudden. The government is not releasing her because it feels guilty; rather, it is feigning goodness so that the other countries of the world will be convinced that there is nothing wrong with the Burmese government. It has a good reason for wanting to be in the favor of the rest of the world. Analysts and politicians have described the elections held on November 7 as "extremely rigged" and "fraud" because violence and threats were used to force people into voting for the NLD.

Despite the reason for her release, the people of Burma are thrilled at the prospect of seeing their leader again. They have been waiting many years for Suu Kyi. One can only hope that she will stay free to help her much-oppressed people. Their loyalty to Suu Kyi can be seen by the strong six-day protest led by Buddhist monks through the streets of Burma in 2008. Many were killed in this protest, but the people were not put down by their oppressive government. Recently, many people who had fled from Burma to Thailand or to other countries are coming back to see their leader take her rightful place. No one can be sure if this woman's release is a blessing, a curse or if it will even bring about radical change, but her supporters are nevertheless optimistic.

What will Suu Kyi do when she is free? Although one cannot be sure,

one can assume that she will address not only her country, but the rest of the world. I personally believe that she is a very strong woman who is not afraid to speak out against her oppressors, as one can see after her numerous house arrests. While the future of Burma is unclear, many believe Suu Kyi will be able to handle it. "The lady will defy. She will not accept conditions from the regime. She must see her people, she is a politician, the people love to see her free, and she wants to meet with her people," says Suu Kyi's lawyer, U Nyan Win.

Due to her perseverance, Suu Kyi has inspired people of her country and of the world to know the importance of their rights. This leads me to wonder and marvel at how much of an influence this powerful woman has. As we watch Suu Kyi emerge from detainment, let us hope that she stays free from now onwards.



FORUM

Is the McRib Excellent?



YES!

By **BOBBY FITZPATRICK, II & KIM GILMORE, II**  
FORUM EDITOR & CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trying to distract myself while uninteresting commercials tainted my television screen, I was on the brink of a coma when all of my prayers were answered. It was so kind to share with me the most exciting news since October 2008: the McRib is back!

I went to my local McDonald’s as soon as I could. No need to freshen up or put on non-pajama clothing; McDonald’s doesn’t care about that. I walked up to the cashier and ordered the McRib. I squealed as I enthusiastically accepted my pork gift, bestowed upon me by the very lovely McDonald’s employee. I walked to my seat, unwrapped the sandwich and my adventure began.

Once I held the McRib, I finally understood that this was no regular McDonald’s fare. The most immediate difference in quality was the bun. This bun was no plain-Jane hamburger bun. It was longer than the average one, and every square inch was utter perfection. This bun wasn’t simply here to make sure that no barbeque sauce got on my hands but to serve as a soft pillow that would gently hold the McRib together. The pickles were precisely cut so that the tart flavor of pickle did not overpower the flavor of the pork but merely gave contrast to the dish. The onions seemed like a risky move, and I was slightly nervous that they would ruin the integrity of the McRib, but I was not disappointed. The onion gave a sharp flavor and nice crunch that only made the barbeque sauce taste even more complex.

The namesake of the course, unsurprisingly, stole the show. The McRib patty. It seems unnatural and against the code of foods to have ribs without bones, but that is just a common misconception among crazy people who want to know what they’re actually eating. I was eating ribs, which are bones, yet there were no bones present. This would normally disturb me, but the incredible harmony created by all of the flavors erased all doubt in the food’s excellence. The bones in the McRib would have hindered the indulgence and slowed me down. The meat continued to be tender and moist without the presence of the actual ribs, and this calls for praise for McDonald’s. Ribs retain their tenderness and moisture with the presence of the bone, but McDonald’s has solved this culinary conundrum. It’s a shame that this glorious swine patty can only be consumed every couple of years.

It may seem like McDonald’s would be crazy to hide such an inglorious meat from the public for years at a time, but this is to protect the McRib from society’s ungratefulness. If we had the McRib everyday, we would barely take its craft into consideration. We would take it for granted, like we do with so many other things in the world, such as air conditioning, toasters and brownie mix. The McRib is actually teaching us about ourselves. We are selfish people who only really appreciate things when they are not accessible or at our full disposal at all times. That is what truly makes the McRib great.

The McRib is so many things: a fluffy bun, tart pickles, crisp onions, smoky barbeque sauce, a treasure-meat and a life lesson. With a bite full of the flavors and beautifully combative textures, the McRib teaches us to appreciate the things in life that do not last forever. What more can we ask from food besides great taste and education? Nutritional value. But that’s not important. What is important is that the McRib does what other foods can’t, and because of that, the McRib is excellent. It is supreme!

NO!

By **NATALIE NOWELL, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

What has no bones, a 40 percent fat content and a cult following it? The McRib sandwich, which is the latest and supposedly greatest McDonald’s promotion. How great is it? Some people drive hundreds of miles to find this sandwich. Others substitute it for their Thanksgiving meal. Everyone seems to go wild for rib-shaped boneless pork, barbecue sauce, pickles and onions – all simple and cheap. It sounded so good, in fact, that my curiosity cast my skepticism away and I magically found myself staring up at golden arches. Mustering my courage, I walked up to the counter and ordered a McRib sandwich for \$2.89. Managing a cool exterior as the bored employee handed over the paper bag, I nearly skipped home with the anticipation and excitement of a preschooler. The smell of good American fast food diffused from the thin paper layers, the only thing separating me and 490 calories.

Finally home, I gently unwrapped the package (and recycled the bag, of course). There was nothing fancy about sauce stains on the inside of the box, which I had expected. But when I removed the hoagie bun to get a good look at the McRib, every cell in my body screamed, “I told you so!” All of that anticipation and adventure came down to a gray, slimy patty with a tiny layer of sauce, two pickles, and a sprinkling of onions. In short, the naked McRib was disappointingly ugly. Still, I trudged ahead and took a bite. The only thing I tasted was lukewarm and artificially sweetened barbecue sauce, a lumpy patty, and the mild annoyance that three dollars had been wasted. The rest was sent down yonder and the box thrown out. There was no doubt about it – the McRib was McNasty.

So what happened? Where were the hopes and joys of millions? They were not in the highly processed sandwich sitting inanimately in the box, and it does not take a McDonald’s connoisseur to figure that out. The McRib phenomenon is nothing but mass-marketing frenzy backed up by its limited appearance. It was first introduced in 1981 but had to be dropped from the menu because of weak to average sales. That is right – the McRib was actually unpopular when it was part of the permanent menu. Bring it around only occasionally for a limited time, back it with some heavy advertising and you’ve got some serious McHype. Without the marketing, the McRib is nothing. Simple is not elegant – it tastes just like any other McDonald’s sandwich, minus the good stuff like cheese and lettuce. It isn’t unique and amazing. To those who defend the McRib with a sheepish smile saying that “it’s a disgusting but delicious patty” – stop. You have been tricked into thinking that by advertising, word-of-mouth or peer pressure.

Eating mass-produced, frozen and most likely contaminated pork and barbecue sauce, made from corn syrup and artificial flavoring, is not good for you. Nobody’s doing themselves a favor by eating something that’s as bad for your body as it is for your taste buds, and McDonald’s knows this. Shouldn’t it be obvious that companies will do anything for money? Suave marketers know what sells a product, but customers should know better than to fall for cheap marketing tricks. The McRib definitely doesn’t live up to its hype, and hopefully, by the time you realize just how horrible it is, your three dollars plus tax won’t already be in the hands of Mickey D.



# FORUM

## Glee Pics Too Gleeful?

BY NAOMI LEONARD, II  
ASSISTANT FORUM EDITOR

I am sure by now almost all of you have seen, or at least heard of, the scandalous Glee photo shoot in Gentlemen's Quarterly. These photos have inspired much discussion and it seems as though everyone has a strong opinion on if the stars should have posed for GQ at all. The people with the strongest opinions of all are parents. Common complaints are that the pictures border on pedophilia and that it will give girls a poor self-image. Another controversial point is that people think that images like these are what over-expose America's youth.

All this controversy seems excessive, and when you think about it, unwarranted.

The first thing that needs to be addressed is that the actresses involved are both over 21 years of age. Neither of them are minors so the photos have nothing to do with pedophilia. The Parents Television Council president, Tim Winters has said: "It is disturbing that GQ, which is explicitly written for adult men, is exposing the actresses who play high school-aged characters on Glee in this way. It borders on pedophilia. Sadly, this is just the latest example of the overt exposure of young girls in entertainment." Yes, this is true, but the girls are not high school aged. As a matter of fact, most people who

play high school-aged girls on TV or in movies are over 18. I also have to question whether there would be such an outcry at these pictures if they instead depicted the female stars from Gossip Girl or The OC? Glee is not a Disney Channel teen

are photo-shopped. These days, girls are told that images of remarkably beautiful women in magazines are fake as often as they are told they are ideal. Girls have the right to interpret these images in their own way.

Pop-culture has always been demonized when kids do things that shock or upset adults. Violence is caused by video games and Elvis made America's youth want to have sex. It is easy for parents to point to things like these pictures as the root of all evil when kids are acting a way they never did as a child. The Parents Television Council recommends that parents only let their kids watch shows such as Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, Deal or No Deal, 7th Heaven and Reba. And they believe that if parents were to let their children watch Family Guy, Buffy the Vampire Slayer, Friends or That 70s Show, their kids would be exposed to inappropriate material and not 'positive' material. These rules may make sense for someone under the age of ten, but after that, sheltering a child from 'negative' material is not a realistic idea. Children under ten will most likely not see these pictures, and they should probably not see Glee either.

Even if the photos are risqué, the actresses had every right to take them since they are not hurting anyone. Some controversy is expected, but the amount that has come related to these pictures is ridiculous. Arguing about it will not change anything. If parents are concerned about how their children will be affected by these photos if they ever see them, then they should probably just worry about their own children instead of attacking the shows director, stars and the GQ photographer.



show. People seem to think the show just jumped on the High School Musical band wagon, but that's not at all what the show is like. There is pregnancy, hooking-up, homosexuality, and yes, sex, on Glee. They just did a Rocky Horror episode!

Hollywood is often blamed for making girls less confident about their image, but are these specific images really going to make a huge impact? Girls see images of models and actresses being idealized while scantily clad. It makes sense to assume that girls would get the impression that, to be considered beautiful, they have to be promiscuous. But can that be every girl? Lately it's become common knowledge that most pictures of celebrities

## Criminals Paradise

BY MICHAEL SITCAWICH, III  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It is difficult to imagine what life is like within the prisons of the United States. As citizens of America, all we ever hear about are the prison brawls, maltreatment by guards of the convicted and other situations where the brutal reality of prisons drives us to question the rights and privileges of incarcerated persons. Though the constitutional rights of prisoners may be limited, which is a necessary precaution to ensure the protection for any possible relations at risk, it is the number of privileges retained by convicts that truly draws the deeply controversial question at hand: Do imprisoned criminals have too many privileges?

To give some insight, it is not federal law to supply prisons across the United States with televisions. Regardless of this fact, most prisons, which are federally run and funded with tax payer dollars, have a number of television systems used to not only broadcast important events, such as the Super Bowl, but also as a way of bringing normalcy to the confined institutions. A high number of these televisions are fully equipped with cable as well, and the bills are being paid by none other than the tax payers.

Threats concerning the limitation of television privileges are often times

used as leverage to prevent unnecessary hostility between inmates. This raises the argument that allowing prisoners this privilege is an effective way of decreasing penitentiary clashes. On the contrary, there have been no recorded trends stating reduction in the number of prison fights since the introduction of televisions.

If televisions were to be banned from prisons altogether, perhaps the federal system could stop focusing on

legal activities after being set free from prison has decreased since the initiation of education in prisons. For another, education is perhaps the most valuable component in life. It helps determine how far one is able to go, and helps move not just America, but the entire world forward. What is wrong with a more educated society?

The issue is this: prison is now perceived as a last resort, at least for some. What sort of punishment offers a form of education free of charge, something many people could only dream of? Some educational tuitions are higher than what some hard-working, law-abiding citizens make yearly. Can you blame those homeless and unemployed citizens who feel as though they have no shot at making something of themselves for actually wanting to go to prison, where they will be given shelter, food, education, and outrageous recreational options?

What was once meant to be a place for severe punishment for those at fault and for those who deserve it is now furnished with cable TVs, weight rooms, free education, and shelter, which for some, is an upgrade from the life they live as of now. It is time for the government to stop thinking of ways to accommodate all of its citizens. It needs to end all unnecessary privileges given to prisoners. In doing so, the federal system would paint a darker, drearier picture of prison – a truly effective way of reducing the amount of crimes committed in America.



bringing normalcy into prisons. Rather, the government could start focusing on bringing punishment into prisons, which is supposed to be the whole concept of imprisonment.

Another privilege given to prisoners is that of free education. In 1994, Congress passed a law giving inmates under the age of twenty-five with a prison sentence of less than five years the right to free education. This law remains active as of today, and of course has its benefits. For one thing, the number of prisoners who repeat il-

## The Omnipotent She-Wolf

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

All of my friends went to see the seventh Harry Potter movie at midnight on Friday. I couldn't go with them because it was a school night and my parents wouldn't let me, but I don't think I can get to the movie theatre until Sunday and I'm terrified that they'll spoil everything for me before then! They keep talking about the movie amongst themselves, so I can't even hang out with them anymore. When one of them waves to me in the hallway, I duck and hide behind the nearest sixie backpack! I'm that desperate to avoid them. How do I deal with this situation?

--Help a Poor Fan Avoid Nastiness

Dear HP FAN,

You are in quite a predicament. After thinking it over for a while, I've decided that the best way to deal with this situation is to hypnotize your friends. Once you have them hypnotized, instruct them to never talk about the movie in your presence again, but instead to bring you a cupcake whenever they consider discussing the movie. This way, you'll be well-fed and the next few days will be spoiler-free!

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

I recently heard someone get really excited about something and call it "dank." I always thought that "dank" meant cold and dark and musty. In fact, the only time that I ever use this word is when I am describing a dungeon. She-Wolf, could you explain to me exactly how this word came to mean "sicknasty?"

--ANY Other Term but DANK

Dear NOT DANK,

This linguistic anomaly really has no explanation and is somewhat like the word "noggin" in this way (look it up! It has no clear origin! WHAT IS THIS?!?). Therefore, trying to comprehend the meaning behind this word is quite like trying to imagine the fifth dimension or make half of your face happy and the other half angry. It just doesn't work.

Dear Omnipotent She-Wolf,

I recently went to Wal-Mart to purchase the newest album of one of my favorite artists, Kanye West. But when I picked it up, I noticed something very strange about the cover. The album art consisted of a glaring pink background and a tiny image so pixelated that I couldn't figure out what it was. I just don't get the cover art! Could you explain it to me?

--Who Had this Awful Thought?!

Dear WHAT?!,

The reason that the image is pixelated is that it consists of two naked people doing something inappropriate (Ye Gods!). Wal-Mart (and anyone else who had any sense) refused to sell it because it was so...um...naked, and so Kanye decided that the best course of action would be to pixelate it completely, instead of CHANGING THE ALBUM COVER like a SENSIBLE HUMAN BEING. Come on, Kanye! My eyes ache because I can't stop rolling them. No, really, they're not stopping. It's kind of weird.

*Send your anonymous questions, worries, conundrums, lamentations, queries, or anything else you might want to send to us: [blsargo.advicecolumn@gmail.com](mailto:blsargo.advicecolumn@gmail.com)*



# I Can't Find My Belly Button!

By **NICK D'AGOSTINO, I**  
STAFF WRITER

We've all seen the movies--a swirling black and white circle, people confessing their deep dark secrets, employees messing up their jobs, quitting even... hypnosis seems like a very serious matter to any movie fan, but for those of us at the Boston Latin School who have witnessed it firsthand, we know it is anything but a serious matter. For the past ten years, on the Friday before Thanksgiving, students, friends, families and alumni gather for the much beloved Hypnotist event. Tickets are priced fairly, food is offered, and even raffle tickets--this year for coveted Harry Potter movie tickets--are offered, with all proceeds supporting the Facing History students' trip to Eastern Europe. Ten boys and ten girls are picked at random to be hypnotized by the famous Tommy Vee, our professional hypnotist for the past three years. They're given a minute or so to fall into a deep, deep sleep, very deep. And then...

The fun begins. Without a doubt, the star of the show was Malcolm Flynn, our much loved Assistant Headmaster. In previous years, other staff members have been brought on stage to be hypnotized. This year, seeing our beloved Assisat Headmaster begging the hypnotist for band-aids and practicing some of his finest ballet skills were some of the best moments of the year. Participant and Senior Class President Nelson Arnous, who was a bit



YOU'RE GETTING VERY SLEEPY...

skeptical of hypnotism at first, is now a firm believer, "When I walked up there I was worried I was not going to be hypnotized and I definitely did not imagine hugging Mr. Flynn."

For those of you who have never seen

the Hypnotist Show, here is a quick breakdown. The doors open at 6:40 and by 6:50 the stands are filled are people are beginning to sit on the floor. The participants' names are randomly drawn from a box, riling up the crowd for the performance

to come. But before Tommy Vee even appears the crowd gets the pleasure of enjoying the BLS Step Squad in what was one of their most impressive performances yet. As the Step Squad takes their seats, the moment everyone's been waiting for, finally begins. The "hypnotees" take their seats in front of the audience and the main event begins. Tommy Vee assigns the participants, under his charm, certain missions no person under their own will would do. From milking a cow, to being in an ice cold room, the participants carry out to make a fools out of them. One highlight of the night was the spectacular ballet performance by the entranced Ashleigh Primack (II).

If you didn't make the show this year, you've missed out on a spectacular performance. But never fear, Tommy Vee will return next year to put on his best performance yet. So get ready to be wowed, and reserve your tickets now.

## Half the Novel, All the Excitement

By **B. KIM, II**  
& **MIKE TOMASINI, I**  
NEWS EDITOR & SPORTS EDITOR

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 1 is the penultimate film in a series that has become a worldwide phenomenon. It is without a doubt the darkest thus far, and simply put, it works. Though sadly presented in only two dimensions, The Deathly Hallows is exemplary, nearly reaching the perfect balance of movie and novel achieved by some of the earlier films in the series. The existence of such a dark atmosphere and narrative obviously makes for a huge departure from our prior six ventures to Hogwarts, but it makes for a terrifically exciting movie.

Within the first thirty minutes, three characters are dead. By the time the credits roll, you can't even keep count. Quips and one-liners are (as usual) interspersed throughout, but as George/

Fred Weasley puts it, they're "just trying to diffuse the tension." The main focus of the film is on the inevitable, impending doom in a world now ruled by the evil Lord Voldemort. Voldy is in power, and he's going to crush anyone who gets in his way, especially "Undesirable Number 1"



ACCIO ACADEMY AWARD!

Harry James Potter. The fate of the free world is in the hands of Harry and his friends, and the

actors handle the pressure spectacularly. It is simply astonishing to consider how well the Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, and Rupert Grint have grown into their respective roles. Grint plays the perfect Ron, noble yet humble, overshadowed and frustrated, yet strong and true. Watson is also admirable as the brainy but unbelievably attractive Hermione. The only gripe-worthy one here is Radcliffe as the titular character, though admittedly the source material doesn't give him much to do except look sad and dejected for two and a half hours.

Warner Bros. caused a furor when they divided the final novel of Harry Potter into two films, as many believed they did it for the purpose of doubling their possible profit. This decision, however, allowed Part 1 to adhere more closely to the original text than any Harry Potter film had done before. After watching the first half of what resulted from that momentous

decision, there is no doubt that the choice was a necessary one. Admittedly, it feels like half a movie. But the spectacle itself is worth seeing. The payoff is worth it.

At the stroke of midnight on Friday November 19th, millions flocked to theaters worldwide to celebrate the release of The Deathly Hallows. Harry Potter mania appears to have enchanted many Boston Latin School students as well, as die-hards rushed to snag midnight and 3 AM shows on the opening day. Isaac Buck (II), one of the attendees, exclaimed, "J.K. Rowling has put me under the Imperius curse! I can't stop watching this movie!" Its okay, Isaac. You're not alone.

After more than a decade spent capturing the hearts and minds of people worldwide, the Harry Potter phenomenon is finally coming to a close. That is a depressing thought, but fortunately we have one more no-doubt fantastic showing to say a proper goodbye to Harry, Hermione, and Ronald Billius.

## Something Borrowed, Something New

By **OLIVIA MCCORMICK, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The hype for Todd Phillips and Daniel Goldberg's Due Date has been huge, which is no surprise considering the success of their last movie, the 2009 summer hit, The Hangover. Not only does the film have Phillips and Goldberg on the creative team, but it also boasts a truly great cast. Perhaps the biggest draw to the movie is that it stars Zach Galifianakis, a favorite from The Hangover. Golden Globe winner Robert Downey Jr. also stars in Due Date, with Academy Award, Golden Globe and Grammy winner Jamie Foxx in a supporting role.

Due Date tells the story of Peter

Highman, played by Downey Jr., who is trying to make it home to see his wife give birth to their first child. After a series of unfortunate events involving the switching of carry-on bags and the repeated use of the words "terrorist" and "bomb" on an airplane, Peter and Ethan Tremblay, Zach Galifianakis's character, are put on the "No-Fly List." Later, Peter remembers that he put his wallet in his luggage heading to Los Angeles International Airport. Left with nowhere to turn, he accepts Ethan's offer to drive him to Los Angeles, where Ethan is hoping to become an actor.

The two set off from Atlanta, and their trip is anything but easy. Peter is stoic, easily annoyed, temperamental and dead-set on getting to Los Angeles as

soon as possible, whereas Ethan is talkative and has no sense of personal space, among other things.

Peter soon finds out that Ethan has recently suffered a huge loss and is still recovering. Despite all their differences, when Ethan is feeling especially vulnerable and lost, Peter steps up and helps him make the right decisions. In helping Ethan, Peter also teaches himself to be a good role model for his child, to be more accepting and to sort through some of his own problems.

Famed movie critic Roger Ebert drew a comparison between Due Date and John Hughes's Planes, Trains and Automobiles, a classic with a very similar plot. The two are definitely very similar. The connection, however, does

not detract from the movie. If anything, it borrowed the basis of Planes, Trains and Automobiles and filled it with new, deeper motives and a stronger comedic divide between the lead actors.

Due Date, though at times completely outrageous, is touching at other moments. All the while, it remains very funny. Galifianakis proves again what a comedic force he is, and Downey Jr. shows that he can hold his own opposite such a comedic genius. Although Due Date probably will not be the best movie any of its viewers have ever seen, and even though it will not replace The Hangover, it is still worth seeing for some good laughs. The plot may ring familiar, but Galifianakis does not disappoint.



Spotlight  
Claudia Kenneally



By Vivian Nguyen, I  
& Dan Moreno, I  
Contributing Writers

Ariel the Little Mermaid wanted to be “up where they walk, up where they run, up where they stay all day in the sun.” The exact opposite could not be truer for Claudia Kenneally. The girl was just meant to be a mermaid. Unfortunately, she got feet instead of fins.

When I asked her how long she had been swimming, she simply answered, “I’ve been going to the pool ever since I was born.”

Honestly, it’s close enough. Since she started swimming at age two, Claudia has spent most of her life in and around water. By age four, she could swim without any floaties. At age six, she joined the Gators swim team at the West Roxbury YMCA. She is currently finishing her final year in the Boston Latin School Girl’s Varsity Swim Team, competing at both Sectional and State championships these past few weekends. Amazingly, she placed in the top 10 for the 100-breaststroke at Sectionals. Needless to say, her dedication to the sport is undeniable. She gives up every one of her afternoons as well as her Friday nights to practice blowing everyone out of the water at meets, and has even received the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award for her commitment.

In addition to being a swimmer, she’s also a talented artist. If you walk through the halls of the BLS Art Wing, you will be sure to pass by at least one of Claudia’s masterpieces. She hasn’t always been an Advanced Placement (AP) level artist. It wasn’t without years of practice at Plaster Fun Time that she can now create such beautiful pieces of artwork. She started off her artistic career like any other elementary school kid: drawing houses or staying inside the lines in a coloring book. To be honest, Claudia isn’t even done with all that just yet. It was only a week ago that we took a ride to Plaster Fun Time again, where she painted a small unicorn only purple and blue.

A swimmer, an artist... anyone could tell that this is one multi-talented girl. To add even another role to her list, she’s undoubtedly one of the greatest friends you could ever ask for. Without fail, she can always be counted on for a shoulder to cry on or a box of tissues whenever any one of her friends is feeling down. Sweet, caring and loyal, she always knows what to say to make your day just that much brighter. She’ll be the one to burst in with her pirate impersonations and with her comments on random YouTube videos that she found while procrastinating on her endless projects. She’s the one who sings along to her iPod even when she’s on the phone with someone, and she has a wicked love for pancakes.

Claudia is quirky and adorable, and that’s what makes her just so wonderful to be around. We’ve been lucky enough to get to know her and we know that she’ll brighten the lives of anyone else who gets to know her. What comes next for Claudia Kenneally? An Olympic gold medal? An exhibit of her own in the Museum of Fine Arts? Whatever it is, we definitely look forward to finding out!

A & E  
Classic Cool for Winter

By Andrew Favorito, I  
Contributing Writer

The Fall/Winter 2010 shows may have ceased in early February, but now that the clothes are actually in stores, it is time to talk trends. To start with, forget about those micro-miniskirts and padded shoulders that we have become accustomed to over the past few seasons (thanks, Balmain) because now it is back to the 70’s by way of the 50’s with longer skirt lengths, wider pants and a lot less spandex. Chunky and oversized knitwear has made a triumphant return for this winter, best shown on the runways of Prada, Louis Vuitton and Marc Jacobs in the form of thick pullovers in either cable or Irish fisherman knit, which can be paired with a set of leggings or tights for an easily achievable look. The trend was continued at D&G, Dolce and Gabbana’s lower-priced line, as well as Proenza Schouler, with Fair Isle knits in full force. For a classic après-ski look that is as far away from embarrassing Christmas sweaters as possible, affordable options are available at American Eagle, J.Crew and Urban Outfitters.

Another huge trend for fall is fur. Whether it be faux or real, fur is showing up on almost everything from jackets to dresses to shoes. It was most blatantly used by Chanel: every one of the 77 looks sent down the catwalk had at least one item made out of a deliciously shaggy faux fur. While the real deal may be out of reach for us high school students, realistic-looking and cheaply priced faux versions are available at many places, notably H&M, making this luxe trend incredibly accessible.

While many designers opted for mostly black collections, Balenciaga, Maison Martin Margiela and Akris all put

forth another major trend for the winter: head-to-toe color. This look can be achieved by almost anyone if paired with careful color coordination and understated accessories. Using colors that are non-clashing and from the same family is key to successfully achieving this look.

On the accessories end of winter trends, most designers opted for simple and understated companions to their runway looks. Mix the clunky bangles and earrings in favor of sleek and understated gold jewelry and make them your best friend for the season.

While over-the-knee boots are this season’s staple, Valentino showed phenomenal kitten heels, proving that they can be just as fierce if amped up with gold studs and gladiator straps. Another unexpected trend was shown at Chloë, Balenciaga and Prada: the loafer. In a season where workwear-esque boots, reminiscent of Red Wings and Clarks, are prominent, it goes to show just how stylishly a classic can be interpreted. Purse-



STRUT YOUR STUFF AND KEEP IT FIERCE, LADIES

wise keep it simple, small and ladylike, like examples shown in Gucci’s collection of handbags dubbed the “1973 line,” over the shoulder satchels based on a Gucci design from the early 70’s and Louis Vuitton’s little purses that seem to hold no more than a credit card, a tube of lipstick and a compact.

In essence, ladies, for winter keep it simple, keep it elegant and keep it fierce.

Long Live “TSwift”

States alone and has stayed at the top of the Billboard 200 for three consecutive weeks so far.

As fans of her music, we were among the many teenagers who went outband bought her new album, sitting impatiently on the bus ride home to

the same charm as her songs on previous albums, but this time Swift mentions a disbelief in love that stems from a strained relationship between parents. In “Mean,” Swift introduces her talent on the ukulele, an instrument that has not been used in any of her songs before. She shows a less innocent side in “Better Than Revenge,” in which she takes a stand and insults a girl who stole her boyfriend. Many have said that the song is about Joe Jonas and Camilla Belle, who went public with their relationship soon after Jonas and Swift broke up. Perhaps the greatest aspect of this album is that despite the level of her fame and success, Taylor Swift has managed to stay true to who she is. Her lyrics are personal, yet relatable and catchy, as they mention love, hope and heartbreak. Furthermore, Taylor would not be Taylor if she did not dedicate songs to men who have had an impact on her life. Allegedly, John Mayer, Joe Jonas, Taylor Lautner and Adam Young each has



MINE! MINE! MINE!

For a country singer, Taylor Swift has had a remarkable four years since her debut in the music industry via Big Machine Records.

Starting with the release of her first, self-titled album, the name “Taylor Swift” quickly became a topic of conversation among teenage girls. With the release of her second album, Fearless, Swift gained more and more fans. Girls wanted to be her, and guys wanted to date her. When “You Belong With Me” came on the radio, you could be sure to hear the voices of both teenage girls and guys singing along and straining to reach those high notes. There is no doubt that she has become a sensation in both the music world and the public. Neither seems to get enough of her.

Now, after two long years, the country pop princess triumphant lyre turns with her third album, Speak Now. The long awaited album was released worldwide on iTunes and in stores on October 25. It swiftly flew up the charts, selling approximately 1,047,000 copies during its first week in the United

pop it into the stereo. After listening to the whole album, we can truthfully say that it is “better than revenge.” The first track of the album, “Mine,” which caused a large amount of hype after it was released on the internet, is one of those songs that will never get old. It carries

his own song on the album, and for the first time, Swift apologizes to a former flame, in her song, “Back to December.” If you have not listened to the album yet, we suggest that you go out and buy one, and we guarantee that you will be “enchanted.”



# A & E

## The (Not So) Pour House



POUR YOURSELF A CUP OF SATISFACTION

**STEPHEN ZOULALIAN, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Affordable, good food, accessibility and a friendly attentive wait staff are all things we look for in a good restaurant. So the question is, does The Pour House fit these criteria? The Pour House is located on Boylston Street, across from the Hynes Convention Center, a quick five-minute walk from the Prudential Green Line stop. It is a classic pub with sports memorabilia covering every wall. Usually, it is not that crowded if you go before 6 P.M., but, after that, it is filled with college students so getting a table becomes a nearly impossible task.

Upon looking at the menu during my visit at The Pour House, my jaw

dropped at the amazingly low prices. I was joined by three other friends, and we were all good and ready to dig in. We ordered the “nachos grande,” “Mexican skins” and the “Around the World on Wings Platter.” Thankfully, the restaurant has televisions set up in just about every direction, so you can catch the game while you wait. Luckily for us, the wait was not too long. When I saw the waitress bring out those nachos, I was sure that I had died and gone to heaven. It was a giant plate piled high with the most delicious nachos imaginable. They were filled with homemade salsa, perfectly melted cheese, black olives, lettuce, jalapenos, black beans and their “Fire House” chili. They were topped with a dollop of sour cream, which was vital for cooling off your mouth

from that spicy, yet very delicious chili. The “nachos grande” was by far the best thing we ordered. The “Mexican skins” were the Spanish version of the classic bacon and cheddar filled potato skins. It was a deep fried potato topped with chili and melted cheddar cheese. In my opinion, they were decent - not exactly noteworthy, but not terrible. Finally, it was time for the “Around the World on Wings Platter.” It was a 24-wing plate, divided up evenly, with six teriyaki, buffalo, “Jamaican Jerk” and Thai peanut wings each. The buffalo wings were the best on the plate: spicy and delicious. The Thai peanut wings, in our opinion, were the worst and remained untouched. The “Jamaican Jerk” and Teriyaki were both great, but the buffalo wings were definitely the best. The bill came to about 25 dollars, a great deal considering all of the food that we ordered. The next time I go to The Pour House, I will definitely be ordering the “nachos grande” and the buffalo wings again. I would not order the “Mexican skins” or the Thai peanut wings again. If I did not make myself clear before, I am strongly recommending The Pour House to everyone.

So gather your friends and head over to The Pour House soon! The only con was the noise level in the restaurant. It can get quite loud on account of everyone talking around the bar and the sounds of the many televisions. Personally, I would recommend going early to get a table so it will not be as loud. In the end, though, The Pour House is accessible, affordable. Most importantly, it has great food. You will not be left unsatisfied or poor after leaving that house.

## The Newest Mega Movie

**GAREYTH HOWELL, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Walking into the theater on a Saturday afternoon, I have to confess that I did not expect too much from the movie Megamind. I had gone solely in an attempt to kill time and was expecting to leave the theater disappointed. Luckily for me, I could not have been more wrong. It turns out that Megamind is just the next installation in what has come to be a long series of ingenious cartoons produced by Dreamworks. Despite the fact that we are no longer kids, it is still a blast to see the film. The movie had my friends and I laughing the entire way through, which is one of the key ingredients in the making of a box office hit.

Over the years, cartoons have fallen on deaf ears, because nothing seems clever after the endless barrage of semi-entertaining attempts at comedy that have been produced in the last decade. Megamind, however, is on a different playing field. Like a few others before it (Shrek, Kung-Fu Panda, Monsters, Inc. to name a few), Megamind is one of those hilariously well-done cartoons that are incredibly entertaining for people of all ages; it is a sought-out form of entertainment even for those of us who would otherwise never have admitted to seeing

a children’s movie. Ever since Shrek introduced CG (computer graphics) animation, cartoon movies have changed for the better, and Megamind is the perfect embodiment of this improvement.

Despite all these assets, however, Megamind is not perfect; it certainly

has its faults. The downside to this film came in the form of a rather predictable story line. All of the jokes and punch lines were predictable at best, which, while certainly acceptable with little kids, did not strike us as particularly funny. The ending was just as predictable as the plot line preceding it, which ruined the film’s attempt at any sort of suspense.

In sharp contrast to its dull and uninspired story line, Megamind has a superior cast, clever and amusing characters, quippy lines and comments that will stick in viewers’ minds long after they leave the theater. Megamind is also paired with a truly wonderful soundtrack. By this, I am not in any way exaggerating; the soundtrack was truly amazing. The plot was accompanied by some of the greatest music concerning classic rock, which fit its overall vibe and character perfectly. “Highway to Hell,” “Back in Black” and “Should I stay or Should I Go” are just few of some of the classic and really great songs that provide the backdrop to Megamind’s antics. Along with this is the cheesy love story that, while predictable, is not cheesy to the point that it makes you groan and even elicit a few “aww”s and sniffing here and there.

Overall, Megamind is a great movie that is guaranteed to leave you satisfied with the knowledge that you have not wasted your admission ticket money. This movie appeals to everyone of almost any age, as long as they are willing to sit back, relax and let their inner child take over. If you are looking for a movie that will appeal to all of your friends and is enjoyable on a Friday night after having endured a long week, Megamind is the fall flick for you.



ALRIGHT, PUT YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!

## Spotlight

### Lily Burger



**BY REED MCCONNELL, I**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lily Burger’s favorite word is poop. “How obscene!” you cry. But no! The creative ways in which she uses this word make up entirely for its obscenity. And although the things that come out of her mouth are often ridiculous, they are just as often beautiful. Lily has one of the most beautiful voices that I’ve ever heard. She’s been taking classical voice lessons since the tender age of seven and it’s certainly paid off—she has this light, bubbly vibrato that no one can resist. It’s her second year singing in the Wolfettes and her third singing in Chamber Choir, and she also recently joined the Handel and Haydn Young Women’s Chorus. When she sings, she’s like a siren, attracting everyone toward her voice. Except instead of legs, she has a huge, scaly tail and spends a good deal of her time in the water. That’s right—Lily is a mermaid! She just doesn’t tell people because she’s afraid they’d make fun of her—you know, call her fish face and so on. She hangs with the Loch Ness monster on the daily and her swimming skills are off the heezy. She also has a passion for music, for everything from Bob Dylan (whom she would really like to marry someday) to Gaga to St. Vincent to the Bieb. Her iPod is more of an umbilical cord, and if she was detached from music for too long, she would probably cease to exist.

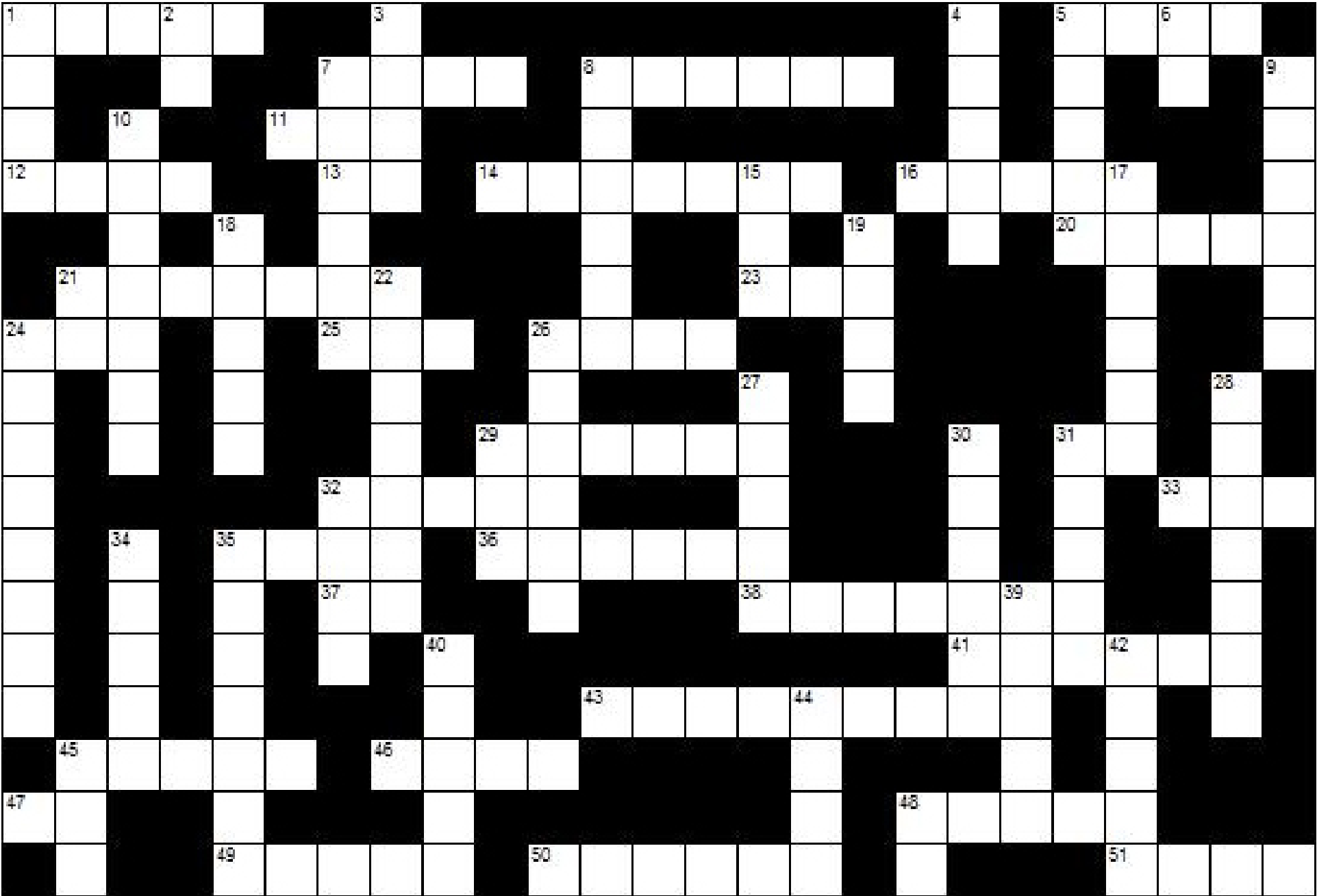
Lily is also incredible at creative writing. Her poems and pieces are heartbreaking in their simplicity and beauty, and she can capture an emotion perfectly in a sentence or a couple of words. She had her first poem published in the Register when she was in eighth grade, and today she’s Editor-In-Chief after having countless poems and short pieces published over the years. She wants to major in creative writing in college, and there’s no doubt that she’ll go far with it. So, in fifteen years, when a friend of yours hands you Lily’s first novel or collection of poems and tells you that you just have to read it, you’ll be able to whip out an old copy of the Register say that you attended high school with her. And then everyone will love you because you know a famous person...

Finally, Lily is just a really great person. She’s smart and introspective and totally inappropriate and one of the funniest people I know. She’s not afraid of being who she is. She likes what she likes, whether it’s obscure or mainstream or acceptable or unacceptable, and she’s certainly not afraid to speak her mind. She lets the people she loves know that she loves them, swears like a sailor when her fleggings are falling down, and tells people off when they’re out of line.

Also, she never wears pants.

I love you, Flower Meat Patty. I’m so glad that I’ve had the chance to get close to you over the past few years, and I know that once you are let loose on the world, you will be unstoppable.





## Across

1. The oldest Jonas brother  
5. Nicki Minaj’s debut album: \_\_\_\_ Fri-  
day  
7. Achilles’ weak point  
8. Harry Potter address: 4 \_\_\_\_ Driver  
11. Wow, this cost me an arm and a \_\_\_\_  
12. Once the Human Torch; now Captain  
America  
13. ‘Forget You’ artist: Cee-\_\_\_\_ Green  
14. New Rapunzel biopic  
16. Clean up your dirty mouth with this  
type of gum  
20. The only redheaded Disney princess  
21. Ocean’s Eleven and Up in the Air  
actor  
23. A female sheep  
24. Springfield bartender  
25. Sports judge/authority (abbr.)  
26. Popular R&B artist; life-sustaining  
planet?  
29. One of the three Unforgivable Curs-  
es  
31. First word of Harry Potter series

32. A festive song, heart even before  
Thanksgiving is over  
33. Louis XIV: The \_\_\_\_ King  
35. If you can’t stand this, get out of the  
kitchen  
36. Ronald \_\_\_\_ Weasley  
37. Where Dorothy is from (abbr.)  
38. The football team we’re going to beat  
on Thanksgiving  
41. Can you teach me how to do this  
popular dance move?  
43. The ‘New Directions’ director  
45. A scar on the abdomen, either an ‘in-  
nie’ or an ‘outie’  
46. Ukraine capital  
47. This Kyle doesn’t have a bellybutton  
48. Recently hypnotized, and beloved,  
faculty member  
49. Tunisia capital  
50. Les Miserables policeman  
51. Eat this chocolate, if you need a mo-  
ment

## Down

1. Prince William’s new fiancée: \_\_\_\_  
Middleton  
2. A possible conjunction  
3. Children’s building block  
4. Inappropriate Vikings player?  
5. Cape Verde capital  
6. State of origin of Arizona Iced Tea  
(abbr., and not AZ)  
7. Catch-22 author  
8. Bakery-café restaurant chain (one is  
located in Landmark Center!)  
9. Wiz Khalifa single: Black and \_\_\_\_  
10. Largest denomination of wizard cur-  
rency  
15. Wall-E’s loval interest  
17. Neville Longbotom’s pet toad  
18. Prongs, Padfoot, \_\_\_\_ and Wormtail  
19. Last word of Harry Potter series  
21. Together or with prefix  
22. Holes protagonist: Stanley \_\_\_\_  
24. Recently animated superhero movie,  
starring Will Ferrell  
26. For a clownfish, he really isn’t that

- funny  
27. An abode or a popular medical drama,  
starring Hugh Laurie  
28. Rock band heavily featured on Glee  
29. You eat corn on this  
30. The ridiculously long-lasting gum  
31. Mulan’s guardian dragon  
32. If something’s easy, it’s a piece of this  
pastry  
34. Four-eyed ‘Scooby-Doo’ klutz  
35. Springfield’s most prominent doctor  
39. An apologetic board game  
40. A Very Potter Musical star turned  
Glee regular  
42. This actor stars as Ronald Weasley  
44. ‘Like a G6’ artist: \_\_\_\_ Movement  
45. Largest US city (abbr.)  
47. Effects abbreviation

## Sudokus

Easy

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5			9	6	4				
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	6	4				7			
8				2			1	4	

Diabolical

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8									5
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1		2							
		7			1		8	4	
				4		6			
				6					9
	7	9		5	4		2		
		6	3						



# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Still Alive

By ALEX YUAN, III  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On November 7, 2010, the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) successfully created a “mini-Big Bang” by smashing lead atoms together. The LHC, a 17-mile-long particle collider, buried under France and Switzerland, has been colliding protons for several months. This experiment, however, used lead ions, lead atoms with the electrons stripped away, that require different parameters than protons. The experiment, named “A Large Ion Collider Experiment” (ALICE), represented by a ten-thousand ton and 83-foot-long detector, was specially built for detecting these collisions. The lead atoms were accelerated to 99 percent of the speed of light, then collided to generate an ultra-dense subatomic fireball with a temperature of ten trillion degrees Celsius, which is one million times hotter than the center of the Sun. It was also said that this collision generated the highest temperatures and densities ever produced in a scientific experiment. At such temperatures and

energies, the protons and neutrons of the lead melted into particles called quarks and gluons, which scientists dub “the building blocks of matter.” They form a soup of particles called quark-gluon plasma, which is similar to the condition of matter one millionth of a second after the Big Bang.

Quark-gluon plasma is a form of matter that cannot be classified as a solid, liquid or gas. By studying how this plasma expands and cools, a process which gives rise to matter that we are familiar with today, the one thousand or so scientists working on the experiment hope to learn more about the “strong force.” The “strong force” is one of the four fundamental forces of nature; the other three are “electromagnetism”, “weak force” and “gravity.” The “strong force” is responsible for binding the nuclei of atoms together. It also gives mass to most of the matter created microseconds after the Big Bang.

This is good news for the physicists working with the LHC. With these new experiments, however,

comes another wave of speculation about the danger the LHC poses to the Earth. People are talking about how the energies seen in collisions in the LHC could create black holes, which could then sink to the center of the Earth and gobble it up.

There is also a phenomenon called “strange matter,” which converts normal matter into “strange matter” when the two come into contact. Whistleblowers fear that its creation may potentially convert the entire Earth with us on it into a huge blob of “strange matter.” There is also something called a vacuum bubble which could, in theory, destroy the Earth and possibly the entire universe.

In their latest safety report, however, the scientists working with the LHC stated that the chances of these events occurring are next to impossible. Black holes, especially the small ones that may be seen at the LHC, will decay and evaporate almost instantly due to their small size long before they eat up any matter. “Strange matter” is also very unlikely to be produced as the temperatures

reached during the collisions easily break up “strange matter.” If any were to be produced, it would be consumed. In fact, lower-powered particle accelerators constructed before the LHC have a higher chance of producing “strange matter” due to their lower operational temperatures. So far, they have not. The topic of vacuum bubbles is also dismissible as an unwarranted fear. Nature’s cosmic rays and large bodies, such as the Earth and the Sun, cause collisions that are much more powerful than those in the LHC. These collisions happen millions upon millions of times each second. As these collisions have not yet created any universe-destroying bubbles, black holes or “strange matter” on Earth, the LHC probably will not either.

In short, the LHC is the beginning of a new chapter which could lead to many new discoveries and could potentially rewrite physics altogether. Thankfully, there are no legitimate reasons to worry about the safety of the Earth or of our universe.

## Opinion on “Ops”

By KERRY HU, I  
ASSISTANT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

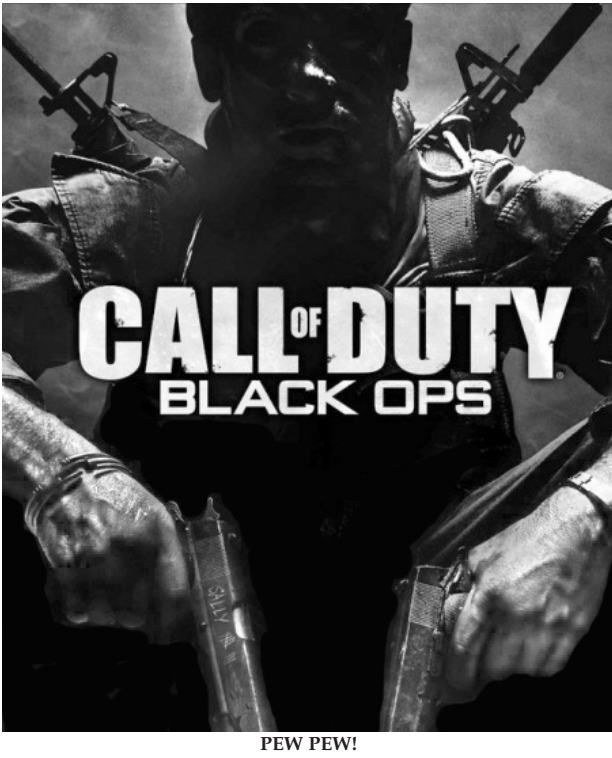
Activision has done it yet again. The newest installment of the Call of Duty series, “Call of Duty: Black Ops,” was released on November 9, 2010. The press calls it “the biggest entertainment launch in history.” Within the first 24 hours of its release, more than 5.6 million copies were sold in the United States and United Kingdom alone, generating a revenue of over 360 million dollars. It also marks the second time that publisher Activision has broken gaming market records, which they previously set with their release of “Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2.”

The major difference between “Black Ops” and “Modern Warfare 2” lies in the different developing companies. “Modern Warfare 2” was developed by Infinity Ward, while “Black Ops” was developed by Treyarch. Besides that, both products are relatively similar in terms of gameplay. Some gamers and reviewers have said that “Black Ops” feels just like a remake of its predecessor, instead of an entirely new standalone package; the game, nevertheless, delivers its action-packed content with a fresh story and unique setting.

Upon starting the campaign, the player dives right into the plot. The first few levels deal with the attempted assassination of Fidel Castro. As the story picks up, you find yourself in the midst of a global conspiracy to take down America (who would have guessed?). Though many of the game’s events are fictional, “Black Ops” has some historical basis. You relive the fight against communism in the eyes of the protagonist, special ops veteran Alex Mason. While the non-linear plot progression can be confusing, the variation and frequent scene shifts give somewhat more playability. In one mission, you are involved in the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba. In another, you are defending Khe Sanh against a wave of Vietcong forces.

As always, the visuals are stunning.

From the snowy mountains of Russia to the jungles of Vietnam, the striking details in every picture frame are inspiring to the player and (unless you were actually there), renders the experience second to none. The soundtrack is excellently composed. During combat, the beating of drums and orchestral music fit the situation perfectly. The controls make it easy to maneuver, and the overall concept of a “point-and-shoot” style relates to both casual and hardcore fans.



PEW PEW!

In spite of these good qualities, there are obvious flaws as well. Where “Black Ops” shines in the single-player campaign, it fails to even come close in the multi-player experience. Numerous reports of a bugged interface and constant stuttering hurt the reputation of this online-oriented franchise. Critics who predicted that this would be the #1 online game for the next few years clearly did not anticipate the overwhelming network problems, which plagued a large number of the game’s fanbase even after the update fix. As a result, these shortcomings diminish what could have been a polished and groundbreaking product.

Aside from some technical problems, “Black Ops” remains a solid form of entertainment at its core. Once Activision releases further adjustments to repair these issues, you should expect to still be popping in this game five years from now.

## Not a Lot of Rot

By DACHUAN SHI, III  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

April 10, 2009 was the day Sally Davies decided to buy a Happy Meal. Unlike most people, however, Miss Davies did not eat the burger. Instead, she left it on a table and proceeded to take a picture of it every day. Many months have passed since the burger’s first photo shoot and yet it still looks exactly as it did on the day it was made. The sandwich did not rot and the only difference between the burger now and a burger fresh out of McDonald’s was that it had essentially become a plastic toy. According to Davies, “At six months old, the food is plastic to the touch and has an acrylic sheen to it. The only change that I can see is that it has become hard as a rock.”

What causes rotting? If you took biology, you would know that rotting is mostly caused by mold. Mold is recognizable by the small white dots that would cover the bread, followed by a pool of green and black dots at a more concentrated location. Mold is everywhere. Wherever there is air, there are mold spores. Mold can grow just about anywhere, and the more humid the location, the better chance of it thriving. So how can one burger withstand the powers of nature? Well, there are many theories flying around.

Theory 1: There is some kind of preservative in the patty, bun and/or wrapping not found in normal burgers.

Disproof: All McDonald’s burgers come with a nutrition label on the wrapping that says exactly what goes inside the burger.

Furthermore, all burgers are certified by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to meet food safety standards. There is no reason not to trust the information given.

Theory 2: There is no air, and thus there are no mold spores in

the place where they store McDonald’s burgers.

Disproof: Sure. When you walk into a McDonald’s you can get your complimentary oxygen tank as well.

Theory 3: There are no mold spores where it was stored in Davies’ home.

Disproof: The burger first went from McDonald’s to Sally Davies’ house and then was kept in the open for more than 190 days. Mold spores are omnipresent. That means you are breathing in spores at this very moment. There is simply no way of getting such a sterile environment.

Theory 4: The burger dehydrates at a faster rate than the growing of bacteria, thus creating a dry surface where mold cannot grow.

A man known by the online name of “J. Kenny Lopez-Alt” conducted an experiment to find the underlying cause of this issue. His results were surprising. Not only did the McDonald’s burger not rot, but neither did a normal homemade burger. His experiments concluded that, due to the small size of the burger, the speed at which it loses moisture greatly surpasses the speed at which mold grows. It essentially becomes a rock before bacteria has a chance to grow on it. So does a McDonald’s burger rot? The answer is yes. “J. Kenny Lopez-Alt” sealed a homemade burger and a McDonald’s burger into moisturized zip bags, and a week later both burgers were covered in mold. So, rest assured, McDonald’s burgers are generally safe to eat, given that they are not half a year old.



STILL LOOKIN’ GOOD AFTER 171 DAYS



# Should Internet Addiction Be Classified As a Disorder?



Yes

No

**By Michael Chen, I**  
Science & Technology Editor

“Internet Addiction Disorder” or “Insanely Awesome Distractions” (IAD) should definitely be classified as a real “disorder.”

As a rather nerdy and geeky teenager, I have witnessed more than one friend succumb to the tantalizing tendrils of Internet gaming. Hours and hours are wasted in front of the computer screen in an attempt to get to the next level or acquire the next skill.

IAD did not, however, always have the same connotations as it does today. The term was first coined in 1995 by a certain Dr. Ivan Goldberg, who satirically compared his newfangled concept to pathological gambling. Nowadays, IAD can mean anything from having twelve level 70 characters in World of Warcraft (I know you’re out there) to spending thousands of dollars on online gambling sites.

Scientists describe mental disorders as “psychological or behavioral patterns generally associated with subjective distress or disability that occurs in an individual, and which are not a part of normal development or culture” (unashamedly stolen from Wikipedia). In other words, disorders are recurring patterns of behavior that cause the victim mental or emotional distress. These actions are rarely seen in people. Severe Internet addiction definitely fits in this category. If you are stuck to your computer for so long that your baby starves to death (this has actually happened), I would say that this is a pattern of behavior that is abnormal. If you die of a sudden heart failure due to lack of sleep while gaming (this has happened too), then I would say you have a problem as well. One unlucky man has even died of blood poisoning because he did not want to get up to urinate. And if there are legit camps devoted to “curing” Chinese and Korean children suffering from this disorder, then I would say that this is a very serious problem indeed. Whether it is the thrill that comes with every spin of a virtual roulette wheel or online game, Internet addicts stay on their computers because it is difficult for them to receive gratification from other sources in their lives. Thus, addiction to the Internet is very real--though the Internet itself may not be addicting, the services and products that it provides certainly are.

Many scientists do not currently classify IAD as a real disorder. I feel as if their disregard for the topic prevents a lot of serious discussion on the issue, because the occurrence of Internet addiction is difficult to quantify. Specific, defining categories are difficult to find and determine. A teenager and a businessman may each spend 8 hours each day on the net, but while the teenager is leveling up his “dark elfin mage warlock master fighter” (or whatever), the businessman may be sending emails on his Black (“crack”)berry. If Internet addiction is defined as four hours gaming per day and seven hours on your email, who is to say that four hours of gaming is equal to seven hours sending mail? If we encompass all Internet use mentioned above, say, an arbitrary X amount of hours per day as IAD, then unfortunate programmers, stockbrokers and students are given a label that does not do them justice.

Just because we cannot create real, defining factors for the identification of IAD, however, does not mean that the problem is not real. Let us try an example. Imagine that tonight you are not allowed to go on Facebook, and you are not allowed to go on Facebook for the next month. All of your friends are on Facebook, but you are not. I do not know about you, but I would freak. I would pull out what hair I have left. Now, extend this concept to your email, to YouTube and then to your random web surfing. Let’s admit it, we are all a little bit addicted to the Internet. I think I can speak for all of us when I say that most of us have some minor issues with net dependency. Yet “real” Internet addiction—the kind where kids stay online for days on end, parents abandon their children, and people die from starvation in front of a screen--is a serious problem and certainly deserves our (and doctors’ and psychiatrists’) full attention.

**Zoe Li, II**  
Staff Writer

The dictionary definition of a mental disorder is an abnormal behavioral or psychological pattern that interferes with daily life. By this definition, if you steal every red pen you see or hoard every book you read or just cannot help but play the lottery 20 times a day, then you have a mental disorder. Medical associations think so too, because they list these patterns as official disorders in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Medical Disorders—kleptomania, bibliomania and pathological gambling. Internet addiction, however, is not on that list. Spending over 14 hours glued to a computer screen certainly seems to be abnormal and does interfere with daily life. According to the dictionary, Internet addiction should be classified as a mental disorder. So why are medical associations saying otherwise?

The answer is that Internet addiction doesn’t really exist. Someone who spends 14 hours a day on the Internet is not addicted to the Internet itself; they’re addicted to what it offers—and it offers a lot. Social networking, entertainment, news, shopping, you name it, and the Internet probably has it.

We have all discovered the convenience of the Internet ourselves. In fact, a quarter of all Internet users fulfill the criteria of Internet “addiction,” or severe overuse of the net, within the first six months of meeting the digitized version of the world. Does that mean a quarter of two billion people have a mental disorder? Maybe. Is that disorder Internet addiction? No.

Let’s address the first part of the definition of a mental disorder—abnormality. The Internet was created to make communicating, working and accessing knowledge easier. It has become so efficient that anyone without the Internet is at a disadvantage in society. Given the negative connotation of “disadvantage,” we can assume that most people like access to the Internet. Using something you like is certainly not abnormal. Overuse, to the point of staring at a computer screen day in to day out, may seem abnormal, but is it? Many people, who already suffer from addictions such as pathological gambling, use the Internet because it offers an efficient way of satisfying their addictions for hours on end. Looking for efficiency is certainly not abnormal. Others, who suffer from depression, turn to the Internet to escape the unpleasant real world for hours on end. Avoiding unhappiness is certainly not abnormal. Saying that using the Internet for however much time is abnormal is like saying that using a pen instead of a stick to write is abnormal. You can be writing the most abnormal things, but at least you are doing so with the best method.

The second part of the definition of a mental disorder is interference with daily life. If Internet “addiction”/overuse results in skipping meals and avoiding sleep, then it indisputably interferes with daily life. In many cases, however, even if someone who overuses the Internet were to lose Internet connection for a few days, there would still likely be interference in his daily life. Take the example of a pathological gambler again. If they were to lose Internet connection, they might just leave the house and skip meals and avoid sleep at a casino until they regain connection. The same goes for clinically depressed and Internet-addicted individuals. If they were to lose connection, their depression would interfere with their daily lives anyway. In fact, for both of these individuals the presence of the Internet actually decreases the interference of their already-present disorders with their daily lives. The gambler would not have to drive to the casino and the depressed individual would be happier.

That quarter of two billion people who overuse the Internet may very well have a disorder, but that disorder is not Internet addiction. Rather, Internet overuse is often, if not always, the result of a previously-diagnosed disorder or a form a self-medication. In the company of a supporting disorder, Internet addiction will appear to fit the criteria of a mental disorder like a perfect winter glove, but alone, it is virtually nonexistent. Unless Internet overuse can stand alone as an addiction, it is nothing more than a symptom of a disorder.



SPORTS

What Is America's True Pastime?



By Nick D'Agostino, I  
Staff Writer

Be honest. How many of you watched the World Series? A game? An inning? An at-bat? Did you even know the game was going on? Probably not. How many of you watched the Super Bowl? That’s right, all of you. Even if you are one of those people who knows nothing about sports whatsoever, you most likely went to a Super Bowl party and were fully aware of who won. That is what separates football from every other sport in America, especially baseball. Perhaps at one time, decades ago, baseball was the biggest sport in this country. The country has evolved and so has the people’s appreciation of good sports.

You may ask, “What is so great about football?” and I would be happy to answer, “Everything.” I could end the discussion with that, but I will continue for the sake of a good argument. The game is so fast paced and exciting down to the last minute. It is not often that you watch an uninteresting football game on any Sunday. With all due respect to baseball, people keep records of how many hours the games take. I don’t know about you but when I’m watching a sporting event I don’t think to myself, “Oh I hope this is the longest game ever!” It is about quality, not quantity and football packs a punch that is hard to match.

Also, fantasy football may be one of the most popular games in this country. So many people play and bet (only in Las Vegas, of course) on the games, and it only builds the excitement and anticipation of each game each week.

One of the prominent reasons why football has to be considered America’s sport is the amount of marketing and advertising done with football players. Every sport gets its due in this country, but football does more than others. Whether you know their names or not, players like Tom Brady, Peyton Manning, Drew Brees and Troy Polamalu, to name a few, are everywhere today. They are all over commercials, television shows and public events. Although baseball players are very relevant in today’s society, football players take the cake by a large margin. Do not take my word for it that football is America’s sport, just look around. Would all these million-dollar companies make these players their spokespeople if they were secondary to baseball players? Nope.

The best part about football is what separates it from the pack and how thrilling it is. Now, of course, this is a pretty subjective argument, but just hear me out. Last weekend, with four seconds left in the game, the Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback David Garrard threw a last chance Hail Mary pass to the end zone. A defender swatted the ball down, but it was promptly caught by a Jacksonville receiver who ran into the end zone and won the game for his team. Not only do I not care at all about the city of Jacksonville, but I am also not the biggest Jaguars fan ever, to say the least. But this play had me on my feet jumping up and down excitedly. I have seen walk-off home runs live at Fenway Park, and it could not compare to the excitement of this play on television.

Sure, you could say that baseball is this country's pastime, and nobody would disagree. But let's live in the present here, people. As Bob Dylan once said. "The times they are a-changing." John McGrath probably never heard that song. But that probaby doesn't make it any less true.

By John McGrath, I  
Staff Writer

Baseball has always been America’s pastime. It is synonymous with everything America stands for: originality, hard work and opportunity. Why football is even considered beats me. After all, how original can a sport be if it has to steal its name from another sport that is dominated by European and African countries? The same goes for all these new-age sports, like lacrosse. Sorry for all you “lax bros” out there, but the only reason you are playing a Canadian sport like lacrosse in the spring instead of baseball is because you were not able to do the hardest thing in sports: hit a baseball.

Yes, hitting a baseball is the hardest thing in sports, and it is severely underrated. Try putting a 90 miles per hour baseball into play consistently. It takes hard work and a lot of practice just to be able to hit the ball 30 percent of the time. If Tom Brady only completed 30 percent of his passes, New England would still be without a win in the Super Bowl. If Randy Moss only caught 30 percent of the balls thrown to him, we would be deprived of his crazy antics such as mooning the crowd. But then again, that is just another point for baseball. There is no excessive celebration; it is pure sportsmanship and class. Dustin Pedroia has never tried to “Teach Us How to Dougie” after a home-run or a close play at plate. If he signs a ball and throws it into the stands, he does it to bring a smile to a fan’s face, unlike some people who do it for their own personal celebrity (cough, Terrell Owens, cough).

Baseball players do not need the excessive celebration because they know that their actions helped their team. That is enough satisfaction as it is. They work hard to make the cut and work even harder to pull off that one single play that makes the difference between a championship team and a losing team. Whether it is a sacrifice bunt or a ground ball, there is no sport other than baseball where practice and repetition pay off. That is what hard work comes down to. Any common neanderthal with a helmet can clap their hands on the opposite sides of an airborne pigskin. He is even more capable of colliding with another common neanderthal. Football is not hard; baseball is. It takes hard work to excel.

It is no wonder why the first codified game of baseball was played in Hoboken, New Jersey, home to the “salt-of-the-earth working” class of America and your one and only Bruce Springsteen. Even though both sports were “Born in the U.S.A.,” baseball clearly reigns supremely in terms of being a pastime. You can even feel the difference when you are sitting in a seat in the nostalgic and energetic Fenway Park on a beautiful spring or summer night, compared to the bitter frost of a fall or winter afternoon at Gillette Stadium. The atmosphere is more enjoyable at Fenway Park. There really is no contest. Before I bring my argument to an end, however, think about what else America stands for: WINNING. World War I? We won it. World War II? We won it. America is all about winning. Now take that concept and put it on a smaller scale, specifically, our own Boston Latin School community. BLS Football finished this year with three wins, which they should be proud of because they have not had more than two wins in a season in like, forever! BLS Baseball, on the other hand, went to the State Tournament last year. This just proves my point that, whether it is on a large scale or small scale, baseball is clearly more American and more of a pastime than football.

Spotlight  
Marie Kelly



By Megan Duckworth, I  
Contributing Writer

If you do not know my best friend Marie Kelly, I want you to say “hi” to her the next chance you get, or at least give her a wink. I guarantee you will make a new friend. I know you have heard her infectious laugh, heard her lead our dedicated cheer squad, or heard one of her renditions of oldies, country songs, or “Ridin’ Solo” (regardless of the fact that she has the memory of Dory from Finding Nemo for song lyrics). Some say she has an “intimidating look” in the halls, but it's bologna . Her gorgeous face is just stuck like that. Marie “Dougie Master Flex” Kelly is the most social, outgoing and likable person I know. She has a presence that lights up a room and makes everyone around her feel good. Marie has the ability to bring out the best in others, while “loving cloud nine” herself. Not only does she tear it up on the social scene, she also does work on both the playing field and in the classroom.

I met Marie playing third and fourth grade basketball. Since her tiny physique is not exactly cut out for the sport and she has a need for speed (which she shows off in her new fresh new whip), she instead chose to grace the Boston Latin School track team with her talents ever since the eighth grade. She has been a key part of the softball team since freshman year, and “Nurse” Marie is especially handy when someone gets hurt. My baby girl’s forte is cheerleading. She has been a captain for two years and stunted for the team that went to Nationals when she was only a sophomore. She displays her incredible athletic ability with her amazingly flexible scorpions while cheering on our Wolfpack. Make sure you look for her gravity-defying gymnastic abilities and her nasty Dougie at the pep rally!

Marie provides support for everyone who knows her and is a vital part of our senior class. She is always offering to organize and lead us, whether by collecting money or by destroying the juniors in Powderpuff. We need her, and so does everyone else she knows. As a friend, I can always count on her.

Marie is especially family-oriented. Her large Irish family would not be complete without her caring ways and sneaky pranks (she just put her dad’s shoes in the shower as a pleasant morning surprise, and they have grown fungus nicely). Marie is always helping her aunts, uncles, cousins and grandmother. She can take on any responsibility. For instance, she organized a big, successful surprise party for her parents’ 25th Anniversary this past summer.

This superwoman somehow finds time to do well in all her classes and have fun at the same time. I’m so happy that she loves all of her classes this year and has already finished applying to college (jealous, too). Whichever college the “guap” Marie goes to next year, I know it will be lucky to have her.



Big Moves in NCAA

Choke-free in 2010

By Jonathan Clifford, I  
Staff Writer

The 2010 college football season is almost over, but has had its fair share of excitement so far. The season started with controversy and preseason decisions that will revamp the sport for years to come. Reggie Bush became the first Heisman Trophy Winner to give up the trophy for breaking NCAA rules while at the University of Southern California. This resulted in the Trojans being placed on probation, a loss of scholarships, and not being able to go to a bowl game for two years. Major conferences like the Pac 10 and Big 10 are expanding starting with the 2011 season. Colorado is joining the Pac 10 from the Big 12 and a new conference called the Pac 12 will be created. Nebraska has chosen to leave the Big 12 and join the Big 10. The Big 10 will be split into a two division, six team conference and will feature a conference championship game for the first time in history. Long time rivals Michigan and Ohio State will be in separate divisions, but will still continue their annual rivalry each year.

Defending national champion Alabama opened the season ranked number one and held that ranking until losing at South Carolina 35-21. Ohio State (who was ranked number



CAM NEWTON MAKES HIS PRESENCE FELT

two behind Alabama for the whole season) took over the number one ranking. The Buckeyes' reign as number one only lasted one week as they were upset in Wisconsin 31-18. Oregon became the third team of the season to be ranked number one and currently hold the top ranking. The Ducks are led by a strong defense and have proved able to win tough games on the road, as shown in their 15-

13 win over the California Golden Bears. The Ducks may be the highest ranked team this year, but they do not have the best player in the nation.

Cam Newton is the Heisman Trophy front runner and plays for the undefeated number two ranked Auburn Tigers. Newton was a backup quarterback for Tim Tebow at the University of Florida for two years and decided to transfer from Florida after Tebow announced he would return for his senior season. Transferring to Blinn College in Texas, Newton revived his career and played stellar football. His recent success led the Auburn Tigers to recruit Newton and he has led to the Tigers to a birth in the South Eastern Conference championship game. Should they go undefeated the rest of the regular season, Newton will lead the Tigers to their first Bowl Championship Series (B.C.S) appearance. Newton has thrown for over 20 touchdowns and over 2000 yard, but unfortunately has been overshadowed by a scandal. Reports have surfaced about NCAA infractions committed in the recruiting process of Newton to Auburn but Newton has continued to play and in the spotlight has played well.

With the season coming to a close every year the same question is brought up: should there be a playoff? Many people do not like the B.C.S computer rankings that determine the top two teams to play in the championship game. Teams like Boise State and Texas Christian University are undefeated but do not play in major conferences, so they miss out on the championship game. If the top two teams win the rest of their games, Auburn will play Oregon for the national championship.

By Mike Tomasini, I  
Sports Editor

I know. I said it last year. And the year before. And the one before that. But I honestly believe that the Bruins can win it all this year.



1918...NOT A GOOD SIGN

The Boston Bruins, or the B's, have gotten off to another strong start this season, yet all the doubters are going to say the same old things: "They'll choke in the playoffs," "The players don't even care about winning the Cup" and the always present "Just fire the owners." I will admit that I found myself thinking the same things after our embarrassing defeat at the hands of the Philadelphia Flyers to end last year's playoff run. We were up three to nothing and we just gave it up! How could a Bruins fan not have gone into a deep depression after that? As always, however, the B's wrangled me back in.

This off-season created more excitement than any in recent memory. The Bruins swapped notorious defenseman Dennis Wideman for Nathan Horton of the Florida Panthers in a move that has proved highly beneficial to both teams. Horton has been a veritable force for the B's, providing crushing hits, top corner

snipes and even jumping into a fight or two when necessary. Despite all of the buzz surrounding Horton, the talk of the town has been the young gun Tyler Seguin, who was taken second overall by the B's this year in the draft. Though he has only been filling a minor role thus far in the season, it is clear that Seguin is someone that Bruins fans can look forward to seeing light the goal lamp for years to come.

New acquisitions aside, there has been one shocking development that easily trumps all others. Tim "The Tank" Thomas has supplanted Tuukka Rask, who was thought to be the future of the franchise, as the B's starting goaltender. He also leads the National Hockey League in nearly every stat category, and he is at the very least in the top three for every other category. No one expected to see Timmy T standing at 10-1, with Rask having played in just five games. Needless to say, it is a fantastic situation for the B's.

I will be the first one to concede that it is too often that the name "Bruins" turns into "Ruins" and that this team with such high potential becomes wholly unworthy of interest. This season, however, I really do believe in my B's. Come June, the name of each member of the Boston Bruins will be engraved upon Lord Stanley's legendary cup.

If they disappoint me again, I give up. I'll find something new to do with my life.

# Get a Kick Outta Girls Soccer



GOOOOAAAAAAAAAALLLLLLLLLLLLLLL!

By Aislinn Twohig, I  
Contributing Writer

If one looked at our varsity record of one win and some ridiculous amount of losses, considered the fact that our team has adopted the expression "Oh you fancy, huh?," insisted on blurting out on occasions ranging from pulling a fancy move (a.k.a "danglefest!") to rocking a "southie bun" (introduced by Allison "Auntie Flo"

Florentino (I)), or even the fact that we were only supplied a short bus to get to practice, it would be easy to get the wrong idea about the Girls' Soccer team.

Contrary to the belief that we are "all play and no work," the Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity soccer teams got down to some serious business this year under Head Coach Encarnacao and goalkeeper Coach "Nelly" Nelson. This year at try-outs, new and old team prospects were

greeted by some solid additions to the coaching staff: JV Coach Daniela DeSousa, sporting a nurturing spirit, killer Spanish accent and a shared love (with me) for Modern Family, and the Assistant Varsity coach Leigh Wojo, who has proven to be a fist-bumping as well as fist-pumping champ.

Due in large part to Coach D's toughness, the JV team had more wins than I can easily remember, winning a huge victory of 3-0 at the end of the season against Waltham. There were several JV season stand-out performances from players like newcomer Hilary "Hi Larry" Rockett (V) and golden glove goalie (known also for her risky fashion choices) Maddie Grover (III), who together ensure a lot of promise for seasons to come. JV's spectacular talent all around will surely result in some competition for open Varsity positions next season.

Varsity also had one of its most exciting and successful seasons to date

led by captains Jonlyn Englert (I), Katie Woo Rainer (I) and Christiana Hynds (I). Though we are known for our struggles in the Dual County League against the dreaded "hyphenated towns" in the past, this year we pulled off some amazing personal victories like holding the massive Lincoln-Sudbury giants to 1-0 at home, and keeping beastly Acton-Boxboro at 3-0, a game typically lost by at least five goals. Along with these impressive numbers this year's Varsity squad also had one DCL All-Star Keturah "K-baby" Gordon (III), and three honorable mentions, Christiana Hynds (I), Elizabeth "Lizzy Jizzy" Jiang (II) and Zoe Crawford (III).

The reverberations of "We got this Latin! Let's get it back girls!" echoing from our bench through Millennium Park after Waltham pulled ahead with seconds to go on our senior night reflects the very core of our team; it reflects the relentless effort, resilient spirit and tremendous amount of heart that all the Varsity girls played with up until that final whistle in a way that the score never could. Even with our heads in our hands and tears streaming down our faces, the seniors Jonlyn "J-Ling" Englert, Katie "Geisha Woo Woo" Rainer, "Lady Warrior" Christiana Hynds, Allison "A-Flo" Florentino, Ruby "Salmon Potlick" Sarron, Kathleen "Weenie" Gillespie, Meaghan "Mellser" Melly and I can be sure that the teams traditions of crazy dancing, chanting, singing and laughing won't die with the class of 2011; the team is surely in good hands for years to come.



# SPORTS

## Pats Going Strong

By **AIDEN PRICE, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Patriots season so far has had its ups and downs. On the up side, their record is 7-2, putting them on top in the Atlantic Football Conference (AFC) East. They have also had impressive wins over Miami, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Generally, this is a good way to start off the season. On the downside, one of their losses was to the Cleveland Browns, a loss which the Patriots were clearly not too pleased about. Also, injuries from Stephen Gostkowski and preseason injury to Wes Welker have impacted the team in a negative light, making strong wins much harder to achieve. As we know from last issue, the Randy Moss trade can be interpreted either as good or bad.

The Randy Moss trade has been talked about a lot. He was sent back to the Minnesota Vikings, the team that the Pats picked him up from in 2007. Bill Belichick said that he was “grateful” for coaching Moss and that he wished him the best “for the remainder of his Hall of Fame career.” Moss first wanted to be traded

after the Dolphins game where he did not make a single catch, the first time this had ever happened since he put on a Patriots uniform. He contacted his agents to tell Belichick to trade him as soon as possible. Moss spoke about the trade during the pre-season, “When you have done so much and put so much work in, it kind of feels like I am not wanted.” Quarterback Tom Brady would say differently. Brady was always a fan of Moss. In his first season with the Patriots on 2007, Moss was responsible for 23 of the 50 touchdowns Brady threw that season. Randy Moss’ replacement is Deion Branch, who was traded from the Pats four years ago.

Another blow to the Pats was the devastating 34-14 loss to the Browns. Tom Brady threw only two touchdowns that game. The loss also ended the Pats’ five-game winning streak. For the Browns, Colt McCoy had his first career touchdown. Of the six turnovers the Pats had this season, three of them were during this game. The

Browns’ offense pummeled the Patriots’ defense, and the defense had expert coverage cutting off many of Brady’s passing opportunities. After this game, the Browns are a team to reckon with.

Not all of the important games, however, ended in loss. The Patriots had a close 23-20 victory over the Baltimore Ravens in overtime. Deion Branch really pulled through this game, with catches setting up Stephen Gostkowski for two field goals. Branch also had a five-yard touchdown, bringing the score to 20-17. Then he had three catches enabling Gostkowski

to kick a 24-yard field goal, making it 20-20. With little time remaining in overtime, Branch had two catches to allow Gostkowski to get a 35-yard field goal with 1 minute, 56 seconds to spare.

Overall, the Patriots are a team to reckon with. Despite some minor setbacks, they have a good chance to make it to the playoffs and possibly win the Super Bowl. Go Pats!



PHOTO.COM  
NO REALLY, GET A HAIRCUT

## College Preview Green Machine

By **KEVIN MCCANN, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

### New Season, Same Crazyness

It’s about that time of year again, the beginning of the 2010-2011 NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) basketball season. The season where it’s nearly impossible to predict who will do well, who will collapse under towering expectations and who will rise above everyone’s standards. This season is one that will illustrate enormous talents from all classes, from the outstanding freshman to the extraordinary veteran leaders of the many seniors from around the country. What few people have noticed is that this season is also a new beginning and an addition to March Madness. The NCAA tournament, in which the field expanded from 64 to 68 teams, pleased some and disappointed others for various reasons. As the season kicks off on November 15, watch out for these teams and players.

#### Preseason team to beat: Duke Blue Devils

The Blue Devils are the overwhelming favorite to win the national championship again, since they have an exceptional freshman class along with the return of potential first team All-Americans, Kyle Singler and Nolan Smith. With Kyrie Irving, an incoming freshman and one of the most prolific point guards in the country, and Seth Curry, transfer from Liberty University and little brother of National Basketball Association star, Stephen Curry, running the back court alongside Nolan Smith, the Blue Devils are the best at just about every position.

#### Sleeper team: Virginia Tech Hokies

Here is another team to look out for: this group of players seems to be the only group in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) that has a potential shot at preventing the Blue Devils from winning the ACC title. With the return of All-ACC shooting guard, Malcolm Delaney, the ACC’s leading scorer at 20.2 points per game, 95 percent of their scoring is returning. This looks like one of the more exceptional offenses in the conference and even the country. Due to the leadership of Coach Seth Greenberg and the motivation of last year’s failure to make the tournament, this fired-up Virginia Tech team could make some serious noise in the ACC and the NCAA tournament come February and March.

#### Player to watch: Harrison Barnes

Barnes is arguably one of, if not the best, players in the incoming high school class of 2010, with a wide range of skills that are extremely difficult to stop. From his long range of shooting to his tight ball-handling, Harrison Barnes could be the key to turning the North Carolina Tar Heels around after a disappointing season, in which it failed to make the NCAA tournament and lost in the National Invitation Tournament (NIT) for the first time in five seasons. If Harrison Barnes lives up to the hype of being one of the best freshman this season in the entire country, the North Carolina Tar Heels will be climbing up the national rankings, as they are used to.

After reviewing all of this, it looks to be yet another exciting and erratic NCAA basketball season, with entertaining games like no other and upsets that no one will expect. Every year, people try to make their mark and their prediction on who will win what game, who will win the championship, etc. The truth is, you can’t predict it. That’s what makes college basketball so great. It’s just so unpredictable.

By **DEVIN KIRBY, I**  
SPORTS EDITOR

The Celtics are back. After two disappointing postseasons plagued by injuries, fatigue and inconsistent play, the Celtics are finally back. 11 games in, the Celtics lead the Eastern conference at an impressive 9-2, with an even more impressive 8-2 road record, coupled with an undefeated 5-0 at the TD Banknorth Garden. The Celtics have already dismantled the Miami Heat twice, once on the Heat’s home floor. They have also routed the up and coming Oklahoma City Thunder and the supposedly revitalized Washington Wizards. The offensive numbers for the Celtics are staggering: shooting around 51 percent from the field and over 40 percent from three-point land. On the defensive end, the Celtics are holding teams to just over 95 points, including the Heat and Thunder, who both average 105 or more.

Kevin Garnett’s legs look great, and the defensive anchor has been averaging a double-double at 10 boards and 15 points per game. Paul Pierce is averaging 21 points a game on 52 percent shooting from the field, as well as almost 48 percent from the three-point line and 95 percent from the free throw line. Ray Allen, a career 39 percent three-point shooter, is gunning at 49 percent this season. Rajon Rondo has emerged as one of the league’s best facilitators; the dynamic young floor general broke the National Basketball Association (NBA) record for most assists over five games, beating out Lakers legend Magic Johnson. Averaging a freakish 15 assists per game, “Rondiesel” has also been making an impact defensively with almost three steals and five rebounds per outing. An improved jump-shooter, Rondo is moving in leaps and bounds towards being a perennial All-Star. “Shaq” has had an immediate impact on the Celtic’s frontcourt as a defensive presence in the absence of usual starter Kendrick Perkins, with a respectable 10 points and six rebounds per game. Not bad for a soon-to-be 39 year old.

Let’s face the facts though, the Celtics are old. Shaq, Pierce, KG and Ray have 59 years of basketball between them. They are all in their mid-30s. KG has bad knees, and Shaq hasn’t been in primetime shape since Friends was on television. Point being, the Celtics can’t play at this level all season. Look at last season, when they lost to the 12-70 New Jersey Nets and the equally dismal New York Knicks after the midseason All-Star break. Good news is, Doc Rivers and Danny Ainge foresaw this and built the bench back to 2008-level greatness. Tony Allen leaves? Fine, we’ll get Delonte West, who also plays lockdown defense and can also light it up with his shooting. Glen Davis and Nate Robinson have finally found their places in the Celtics system, and Marquis Daniels has finally started producing offensively. The big surprise is rookie seven-footer Semih Erden, who has stepped up as another reliable big man after the first of no doubt several of Jermaine O’Neil injuries.

Are the Celtics old? Sure, but 2008 was only two years ago. They’re not getting any younger. It’s finally dawning on “The Truth” that the truth is his career in a professional jersey is winding down. With a bench reinvigorated with new faces, young legs and a team-wide fire, the Celtics are getting an excellent early start on possibly one of their best and possibly one of their last, runs for the banner. It’s all about 18.

## Spotlight Kyle Flattery



By **KEVIN YETMAN, I**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If I were to describe Kyle “Something” Flattery in one word, it would be “Swiss Army Knife.” He does anything and everything, and everyone wants to carry a Swiss Army Knife in his/her pocket. For those of you who don’t know him, he’s that pretty kid with the hair. He struts down the hallway, making both boys and girls become weak at the knees. He’s a role model for babies, teenagers, parents, Barack Obama and superheroes. According to a source, Kyle is a popular name. Do you know why? Parents have been doing this in hopes of having a child as magnificent as Kyle. Time and time again, however, they come to be disappointed. Luckily, my parents named me Kevin. If you’re considering going home and asking your parents to adopt him, it’s too late. I’ve been asking my parents for years, and I think they’re finally coming around to the idea.

Kyle can play all sports at an amazing level of intensity. He’s a captain on the Boston Latin School Varsity Soccer Team, and primarily plays defense. He does both indoor track and tennis for BLS as well. He plays Irish football and is one of the best in the nation. He even played on the national team last year. I’m not really sure what Irish football is; I’m just going by what he tells me. It sounds way too intense and difficult to be real. I’ve played baseball with him, watching him make diving plays in the outfield. The only sport he doesn’t play is professional rollerblading. Oh wait, he does...

Kyle Flattery toots his own horn much too often, and by horn, I mean the bass clarinet! He is an active member in BLS Senior Band and is the only person in the world that plays this instrument. He also plays guitar, piano and the recorder.

So right now, you’re probably impressed. What if I added the fact that he does all of this while being a super genius? He does more work than I thought possible. He takes ten AP classes at a time. I didn’t think you could do that. Once again, however, Kyle bent the rules in his favor because he has that kind of power. He gets home from sports, does his hair, his homework, works on his hair some more and is left with only three hours to sleep. I don’t get how he does it.

All kidding aside, Kyle does do all of this and is truly an amazing person. Get to know him, before it’s too late because he’s busy becoming even more successful at some prestigious college. It’s all right if you’re jealous of him, because I am too. But he’s mine. Back off. Just one word of advice: if you want to know what kind of shampoo he uses, don’t bother asking. He won’t tell me.



# Double the One, Double the WIN

By SEAN MYCROFT, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It was eerily quiet on the field. Just the small murmur of some people talking here and there, cars passing by every so often. The anticipation was rising as the clock inched slowly toward three. Then, suddenly, the silence was broken. One could hear a distant chant, screams of “one one” filling the air. All who heard it knew that the 2011 Girls Powderpuff Team was on its way to Roberto Clemente Field with one purpose in mind...to crush some juniors and win a football game.

This year's game was more important than those of past years. The seniors were hoping to bounce back after a brutal loss to the Class of 2010 the year before, while the juniors were hoping for an upset, a huge win over an older, heavily favored senior class.

There was no doubt, the seniors wanted it. They wanted it badly. They had the fire and determination. One could see it in all of the girls' faces. Before the game, the senior team coaches, Gabe Diop (I), Connor Carrigan (I), Mike Scannell (I) and Gabe Calmon (I), described just how much they wanted to win, “We are runnin’ up the score on them today.” When asked to respond, the junior coaches,

Tyler Hallinan (II), Mike McKie (II) and James Bender(II) replied, saying simply, “The juniors can win even a fixed football game.” There was no doubt that all of the coaches had confidence in their teams.

The game opened with a quick

worth (I). The seniors did not take long in responding to the junior opening drive, scoring three times before the half, with touchdown runs by Marie Kelly (I), Kelsey Stappen (I) and Emma Rice (I). Besides a long touchdown run by Jackie DelMuto

at halftime was reported to say, “We are gonna go right at ‘em,” and they certainly did just that. They achieved this by their outstanding defense, beginning with the defensive line of Laura Sullivan (II), Chloe Lane (II), Rachel Wolsfelt (II) and Claire Zimmerman (II), who played great in the second half. That, coupled with strong effort by Anya Bowen (II) and the spectacular interception by Bethany Castellano (II), gave the juniors a fighting chance. They scored four times in the second half, tying it late in the fourth quarter. Yet the seniors were still able to perform on offense, putting the ball in the end zone three more times by way of a QB sneak for Emily Berardi (I) and two more hard runs by Kelsey Stappen (I) and Emma Rice (I). The last touchdown by Rice turned out to be the deciding factor as the seniors were able to pull out the win, 42-35. The effort for both teams was there. Megan Duckworth (I) remarked, “We did a million times better this year. The coaching was awesome, our offense was unstoppable, and the defense crushed them!” Marie Kelly (I) said something similar, “I thought we did really well this year, we went out to win and worked hard.”

There was no doubt that every girl on both teams worked hard, and it turned out to be an awesome and very entertaining game, thanks to the officiating crew of Mr. Bilodeau, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Bernazzani and Mr. Apperwhite. I give credit to the juniors for competing...but you will have your year next year. At the end of the day, seniors always win.



SENIORS LOCK IT UP

impressive touchdown play by the juniors, on a pass from quarterback, Molly McCormick (II), to Bridgette Nee (II), which put them on top 7-0. Yet they would not achieve much more success in the first half, for they were matched up against a tough senior defense, led by Jackie McDonagh (I) and Megan Duck-

(II) for the juniors, it seemed as if their offense would have a hard time succeeding against the tough senior defensive line, which included Shemia Perry (I), Danielle Santos (I) and Cydne Apperwhite (I), who made her dad very proud.

Despite the first half deficit, Mike McKie (II), one of the junior coaches,

## WICKED SUSTAINABLE

### UMassAmherst

#### The Natural Resource

“What’s really inspiring about UMass is the number of student initiatives. These are motivated people. Everyone’s working off of each other’s energy. In the Eco-Rep program, we’re helping students put their own behavior into the larger web of sustainability. The goal is to understand the big picture, to start a dialogue, to be an effective, engaged citizen.”

Nell Finnigan '12. Eliot, ME. Plant, Soil, and Insect Sciences. UMass Eco-Rep program manager. Developed a year-long curriculum in environmental literacy and sustainability awareness. “Food brings communities together. The solutions to a lot of the problems we’re facing—economic, environmental—start with food.”

